FBI asks RP to surrender Abu Sayyaf

STORY ON PAGE A2

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS

SEPTEMBER 23, 2001 ★★ 56 PAGES 6 SECTIONS VOL.16 NO. 287

No hijacker on Cloud 9

WALA KAYANG HIJACKER DITO?
AGR

BY TJ BURGONIO

NO HIJACKER could have terrorized the 12-year-old boy out of the cockpit.

He was on Cloud 9 as the plane flew right through the clouds.

"It's beautiful,"

NO/ A13

Star-spangled TV tribute for heroes

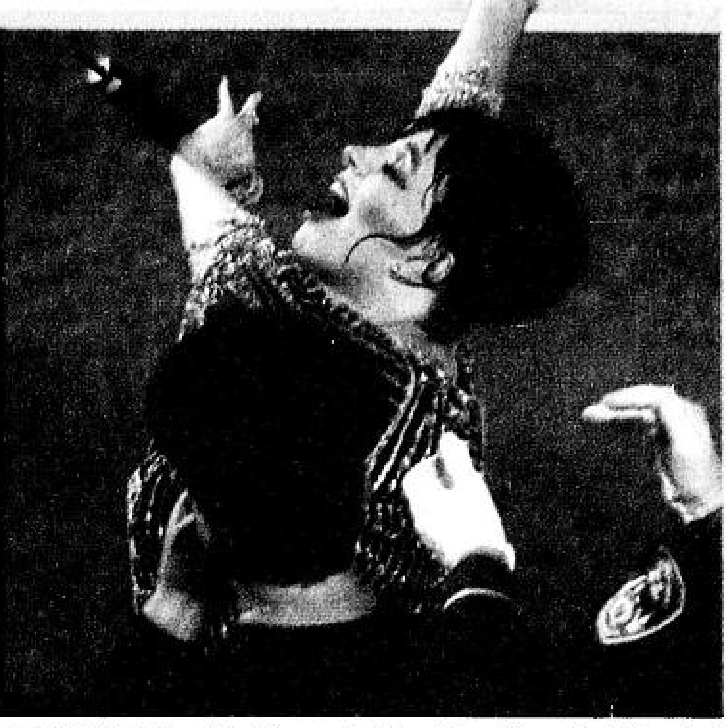
LOS ANGELES—Rock troubadour Bruce Springsteen sang the prescient "My City of Ruins" and pop diva Mariah Carey gave a comeback performance of "Hero" during an internationally televised pledge drive on Friday benefiting victims of the Sept. 11 attacks on America.

STAR/ A13

NO WONDER the telethon got an average of 50,000 calls an hour. Look who's manning the phones: Tom Cruise and Sylvester Stallone.

TO RAISE spirits and funds, George Clooney and Julia Roberts join "A Tribute to Heroes."

"I'M a Muslim against violence like all Muslims," Muhammad Ali says; Will Smith portrays him in an upcoming movie.


"NEW YORK, New York" as only Liza Minnelli can belt it out at the Shea Stadium as firefighters and police officers clap during the New York Mets game against the Atlanta Braves.

It's Afghans vs Afghans

US plans to arm rebs vs Taliban

THE HELP of the Northern Alliance, the main resistance group opposing the ruling Taliban in Afghanistan, could be a crucial element in US military operations to smoke out suspected terrorist mastermind Osama bin Laden and his network, US defense officials have suggested.

US Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld has said it is possible the Bush administration would opt, at least initially, for equipping and assisting the Northern Alliance rather than intervening directly with US ground forces against the Taliban fundamentalist Islamic militia.

"These folks, they know the lay of the land, they know, in some cases, some targets that are useful, they have ideas about how to deal with the Taliban," Rumsfeld said of the resistance fighters in an interview on Fox News television Friday.

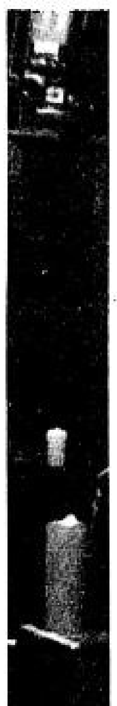
The Northern Alliance forces "can be a lot of help," he said. "First of all, they're the only thing on the ground competing with Taliban, and there are a lot of people, Afghans, who don't like the Taliban, who would prefer to have Taliban out of there."

The Washington Post reported that there have been talks between the National Security Council and alliance leaders "on a fairly routine basis," quoting an unnamed Bush administration official.

According to the Post report, Harun Amin, a spokesperson for the alliance, said his coalition could muster 30,000 troops. The Taliban, by one estimate, have around 45,000 troops.

Rumsfeld noted the historical

IT'S/ A12


PHOTOS: REUTERS/AP

SHOW of unity starring the Who's Who of the world's pop icons was an unprecedented, two-hour, commercial-free simulcast from candle-lit studios in Los Angeles and New York which aims to raise funds for the families of the heroes of the tragedy of Sept. 11, 2001. Willie Nelson leads the singing of "America the Beautiful."

Defiant voices vow: We'll fight till death

DERISION and anger in some parts of the world met US President George W. Bush's forceful demand to Afghanistan's ruling Taliban to immediately surrender Osama bin Laden and his fighters—or else.

"Children who are killed in Palestine are killed with American weapons, and dozens of them are being slaughtered every day," said Mamdouh, a grocer in Cairo. "So why didn't the United States move to ensure the justice that it is now calling for?"

In Pakistan, Bush was burned in effigy in demonstrations in major cities as thousands of Muslims protested their country's decision to cooperate against neighboring Afghanistan.

As many as 10,000 people marched Friday to the center of Peshawar, shouting slogans and bearing signs that read "We will fight until the death and destruction of the United States" and "Crush America and Bush."

In the Middle East, defiant voices were raised mainly in mosques as Muslim clerics called America's newly declared war an attack on Islam.

Cleric Bakir Abdul-Razak condemned "the new crusade" as "war with a new cover" in prayers carried on Iraqi state TV.

"By God's will, the Americans will not

DEFIANT/ A12

Why NY ♥ Giuliani

Big Apple's darkest hour is its mayor's finest

NEW YORK loves Rudy Giuliani. Finally.

And the city's darkest hour has been its mayor's finest.

Two weeks ago the controversial Giuliani was a lame duck, lampooned by the media for his marital problems, tarnished by two high-profile cases of police brutality against immigrants and attacked for his abrasive, if effective, style.

Today, he is the most admired and beloved man in his city, his state, and possibly, his country. The two-term Republican mayor's performance since two hijacked jetliners crashed down the World Trade Center on Sept. 11 has earned him overseas admirers and the title of the "Winston Churchill of New York."

New York Times columnist Bob Herbert phrased it this way: "He moves about the stricken city like a god."

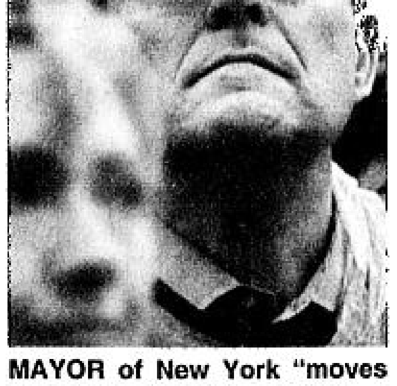
Giuliani's new admirers include diehard Democrats who never voted for him, activists who have long lambasted him as insensitive to minorities, and people in other countries who may not have known his name a week ago.

Political consultants say the mayor, who has only three months left in office, could run for anything now and win.

Giuliani has deflected the acclaim.

"What I should do is do the job until Dec. 31, and prepare someone else as the next mayor," he said, referring to the date when his

WHY/ A13


MAYOR of New York "moves about the stricken city like a god." AP

Bin Laden: Taliban's most valuable tenant

NEW YORK—Osama bin Laden's presence in Afghanistan brings its ruling Taliban a trove of donations from a global network that has helped keep the cash-starved militia in power, US intelligence experts say.

They say that while a US attack will be costly for Afghanistan, the Taliban will likely lose an important source of income if it forces out the suspected mastermind of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

Bin Laden takes in millions of dollars in contributions from Islamic supporters in the Arab world, which in turn are used partly to fund Afghanistan's leaders, the intelligence experts say.

With a personal fortune estimated at $300 million, Bin Laden is said to fund a global network of as many as 3,000 Islamic militants and also supplies highly trained fighters for the Taliban's war against a northern-based opposition alliance.

BIN LADEN/ A12

E TULUNGAN NYO KAMI!

Hand over Abu Sayyaf, US agency tells gov't

By Norman Bordadora
Philip C. Tubeza
and Carla P. Gomez
PDI Visayas Bureau

THE US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has asked the Philippines and eight Arab and Islamic nations to hand over hundreds of suspected "terrorists," a pro-Syrian Arabic paper reported on Saturday.

The weekly Almoharrer said the FBI has asked the Philippines to hand over Abu Sayyaf members, as well as three Omani nationals arrested while they were taking pictures of the US Embassy in Manila.

The weekly said the FBI had also asked Afghanistan, Egypt, Iran, Lebanon, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Syria, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen to turn over the suspects or "face the consequences."

The weekly, Syrian-owned but edited in Paris and Beirut, cited European diplomats in France for its report.

The weekly also said the FBI had asked Russia as well as seven Western nations to investigate an unspecified number of people believed to have links to Osama bin Laden. The Western countries named by the weekly were Belgium, Britain, France, Germany, Greece, the Netherlands and Switzerland.

'Help us'

Senate Minority Floor Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. said the US should help the Philippines crush the Abus Sayyaf in exchange for the country's support in the international war on terrorism.

"America should help us deal with our own terrorists. They can do this by helping us upgrade our armed forces," Pimentel told reporters.

National Security Adviser Roilo Golez confirmed Friday the Philippines is seeking US help to crush the Abu Sayyaf.

Golez said President Macapagal-Arroyo will issue a new statement on the country's role in the international fight against terrorism.

"She is preparing a new policy statement on terrorism. One key input would be the direction the United States would take" in the international war on terrorism it is leading following the Sept. 11 attacks on New York and Washington, Golez said.

The President on Friday said she would push for the creation of a regional anti-terrorist front at the annual meeting of Association of Southeast Asian Nations leaders in November.

Asean leaders will meet in Brunei on Nov. 5 and 6. The grouping includes Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

No RP troops

While the National Security Council has decided to let the US use its former bases at Subic and Clark to refuel its planes and as a transshipment point for war materiel, Malacañang is not considering sending Filipino combat troops to the international coalition America is building to fight terrorism.

"That is definitely very, very unlikely. But just in case it will come to that, it will be done only with congressional approval," Golez said.

"It could be next month, a few months from now, tomorrow or next week," Golez said.

Brig. Gen. Edilberto Adan, Armed Forces spokesperson, said Filipino soldiers are standing by for instructions from Malacañang should the US step in to crush the Abu Sayyaf.

Adan told reporters at Camp Aguinaldo, "As soldiers, we are ready to comply with directives from the national leadership."

Basilan Rep. Gerry Salapuddin said Filipino Muslims would not readily join the call for a jihad, or holy war, against the US.

He said Filipino Muslims were "moderates," even as he cautioned the government against indiscriminately labeling Muslims as terrorists.

Opposition Sen. Edgardo Angara also cautioned Malacañang against carrying out warrantless arrests and indiscriminately rounding up foreign nationals in its effort to stamp out local terrorist cells said to be based in the country.

Visit mosque

"The authorities should always exercise restraint and moderation," Angara, president of the opposition Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino, said in a statement.

Angara noted that even in the United States, where terrorists struck hard last week, the authorities obtained warrants before arrests and searches were carried out.

Sen. Ramon Magsaysay urged President Macapagal to visit a mosque to assure Muslims the country's support for the war against terrorism was not directed at Islam.

Magsaysay, chair of the Senate committee on national defense and security, warned against the danger of stereotyping Muslims as being all bad or terrorists, in the wake of the US attacks.

"I am advising the President to visit a mosque to make a strong statement against the dangers of making sweeping generalizations about Muslims. She should take along with her the Vice President, members of the Cabinet and Congress and other officials," he said. ***With Armand N. Nocum, and AFP reports***

Local bishops back int'l war on terrorism

CATHOLIC bishops yesterday gave their blessing to a United States-led campaign to go after those responsible for terrorist attacks on its soil, calling it a "moral responsibility" for mankind.

While the Church espouses forgiveness and nonviolence, this does not exclude "just punishment" for crimes committed, and there is a whole range of human action that is "morally allowable," said Archbishop Orlando Quevedo, president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines.

People whose lives are unjustly threatened or countries that are unjustly attacked can invoke self-defense, while the Church also sanctions the armed pursuit of dangerous criminals to bring them to justice, Quevedo said.

"It is expected that one's own death in self-defense or the deaths of police or soldiers in pursuit of dangerous criminals, or the loss of thousands of lives in a war of self-defense, or the possibility of counter-retaliations, are risks that have to be faced," he said in a statement.

The alternative would be accepting "the trampling of rights and dignity without resistance and with impunity."

President Macapagal-Arroyo has expressed full support for US President George W. Bush's call for justice, and has offered the use of the country's key airports toward this effort.

However, Quevedo warned the President that the situation was bound to exacerbate tensions between the Catholic majority and the Islamic minority in the country.

"The global war on terrorism, especially if the Taliban (rulers of Afghanistan) were to be attacked, would definitely not improve the situation," he said.

Washington says the Sept. 11 attacks that killed more than 6,000 people were masterminded by Saudi fugitive Osama bin Laden, who is based in Afghanistan.

According to the latest official DFA toll from New York, two Filipinos were killed and 115 others are missing after the attack on the World Trade Center. The US federal count of missing Filipinos totaled 428 persons, however.

Starting today, about 1.4 million Catholic parishioners in 72 parishes all over Laguna province are expected to join parish priests in conducting Masses, novenas, prayers and sacrifices for world peace. ***AFP with a report from Romulo O. Ponte, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

RP to ship toxic waste to America

DOMESTIC electronics and semiconductor companies can now ship their hazardous industrial wastes to the United States following an agreement signed recently by the Philippine and US governments.

This will significantly reduce the costs of certain key industries in the country, the foreign affairs department said.

The agreement was signed last Wednesday by Vice President and Foreign Secretary Teofisto Guingona Jr. and former US Embassy charge d'affaires Michael Malinowski.

Guingona said electronics firms here would benefit from the "convenient, inexpensive and practical means" of hazardous waste disposal covered by the agreement.

Without the agreement, domestic industries are prohibited from shipping their hazardous wastes abroad under the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal.

"This agreement, whereby these wastes will be shipped to the US and processed in appropriate treatment facilities (there), provides an excellent opportunity to reduce the cost of doing business in the Philippines," Guingona said.

The accord was also an "important step in achieving the country's environmental and sustainable development objectives," he said.

Malinowski, who ended his tour of duty in Manila last Wednesday, said the agreement was "environmentally responsible" as well as economically beneficial to both nations. ***Dona Pazzibugan***

Ex-senator De Vera, 96

TEODORO Perez de Vera, former congressman, senator and governor of Sorsogon, died on Sept. 17. He was 96.

De Vera, who cofounded the old Liberal Party with President Manuel Roxas, served the government for 34 years in appointive and elective positions under six presidents.

He was chief of the Asian Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs under President Sergio Osmeña, legislative secretary to Presidents Roxas and Elpidio Quirino, chair of the Abaca Development Board and assistant executive secretary to President Diosdado Macapagal, and chair and general manager of the Bicol Development Co. under President Ferdinand Marcos.

De Vera was married to the late Carmen Calayag and is survived by five children, 13 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

His ashes will be entombed at the St. James the Great Church in Alabang on Sept. 26.

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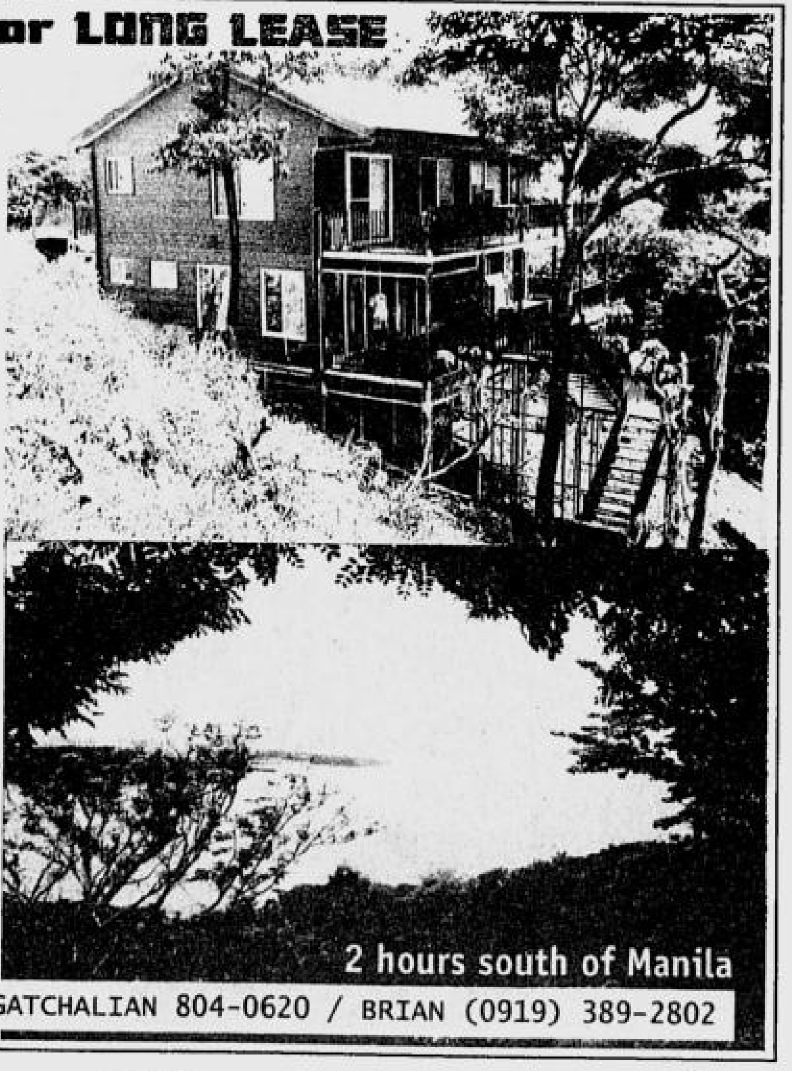

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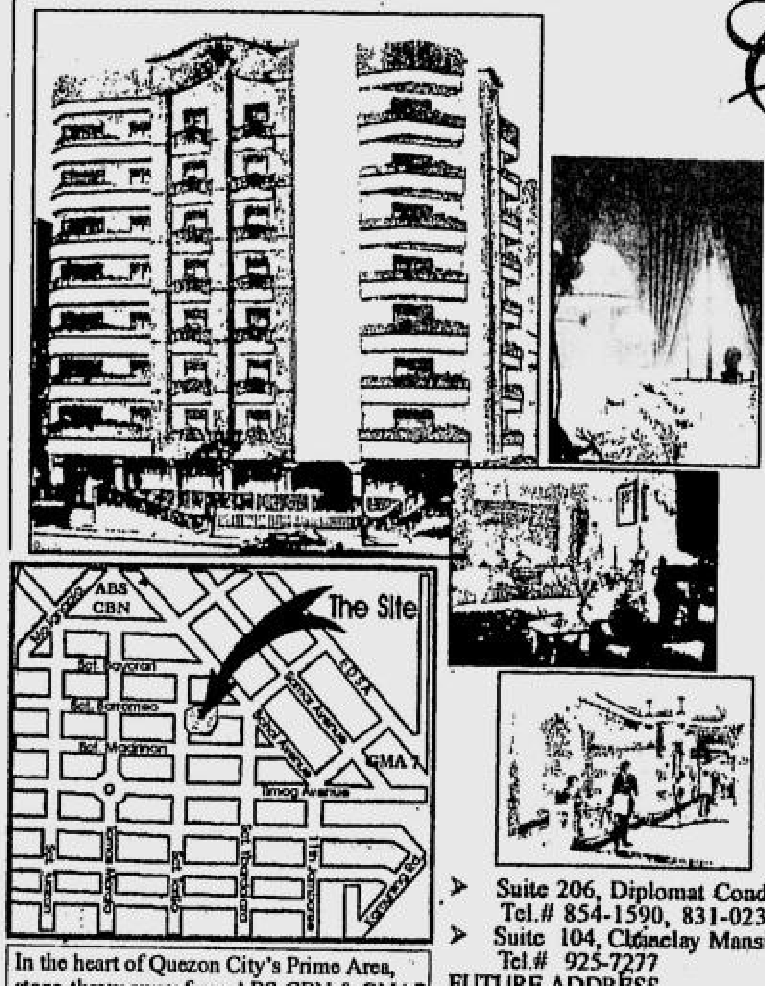

Jimenez could still face music for plunder

MANILA Rep. Mark Jimenez is not off the hook just yet.

After the recent indictment for plunder of businessman Jaime Dichaves, probers at the Ombudsman's office are setting their sights on Jimenez who, like Dichaves, belonged to the inner circle of jailed ex-President Joseph Estrada.

Jimenez and Di-chaves, along with 14 other businessmen, were implicated in the allegedly anomalous purchase by two state-run pension funds of P1.8-billion worth of shares of Belle Resources Corp. in 1999.

Jimenez could still be indicted as the government has yet to grant him immunity from prosecution, Ombudsman Aniano Desierto and Justice Secretary Hernando Perez said.

Both denied reports that Jimenez had been granted immunity from suit arising from his cooperation in the cases against Estrada.

Desierto said in an earlier interview that his office has to first establish if Jimenez was the least guilty among the respondents.

"Also, we should determine if his testimony is corroborated by sufficient oral and testimonial evidence to strengthen our case against the respondents," he added.

Perez said Jimenez was being considered as a state witness against Estrada but that his office was still studying the implications of this.

Asked if Jimenez was a direct participant in the shady deals, Perez said: "Not even a participant. But in other cases, he was a participant."

Overall Deputy Ombudsman Margarito Gervacio said the indictment of Dichaves does not mean the Ombudsman's office has cleared the other businessmen linked to the scam.

Michael Lim Ubac

US pulls plug on joint exercises with RP

By Tonette Orejas

PDI Central Luzon Desk

CLARK SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE—The United States has ordered the pull-out of its troops who were in the country for joint exercises with the Philippine military, after President George W. Bush placed all US Armed Forces on alert in preparation for a global anti-terrorism campaign.

The US cut short an Army Special Forces training exercise here, canceled a naval exercise set to begin on Monday in Subic Bay and called off an Air Force squadron demonstration slated for Oct. 3 at Clark.

A C-130 plane landed at Clark International Airport on Wednesday to pick up 30 US Army personnel participating in the Balance Piston 0-5 training exercise.

The troops, who had been training in Clark and in Fort Magsaysay, Nueva Ecija, since Aug. 20, were ordered to return to Kadena Air Force Base in Japan.

The aircraft's arrival alarmed residents of Angeles City and Mabalacat who mistook it for the vanguard of the US anti-terrorism contingent.

Officials here cited recent reports that the former US bases at Clark and Subic would be used as a refueling station for US warplanes.

Elmer Cato, acting executive director of the Presidential Commission on the Visiting Forces Agreement, said the weeklong maritime surveillance exercise, which should have started on Monday at Subic, has been shelved.

Col. Charles Hotchkiss, who heads the Philippine Air Force units stationed at Clark, confirmed that the US Air Force's Thunderbirds also canceled their "aerobatic" shows, citing the terrorist attacks in the US as the reason for putting aside a project that had been in the works for the past 14 years.

Bienvenido Manga, Clark airport general manager, and retired Col. Antonio de Guzman, Subic airport general manager, said no US military plane has landed at the two former US bases since Thursday.

They said flight schedules next week do not indicate the arrival of any US military aircraft, either.

However, Manga said the Clark-based Coastal Corp. oil company stood "ready to serve the refueling needs of the US military."

The company has rehabilitated the 40-mile underground petroleum, oil and lubricant pipeline that extends from here to Subic.

The facility was left by the US Air Force and Navy when they pulled out of the bases in September 1991 after the Senate voted not to renew the US-Philippine bases treaty which expired that year.

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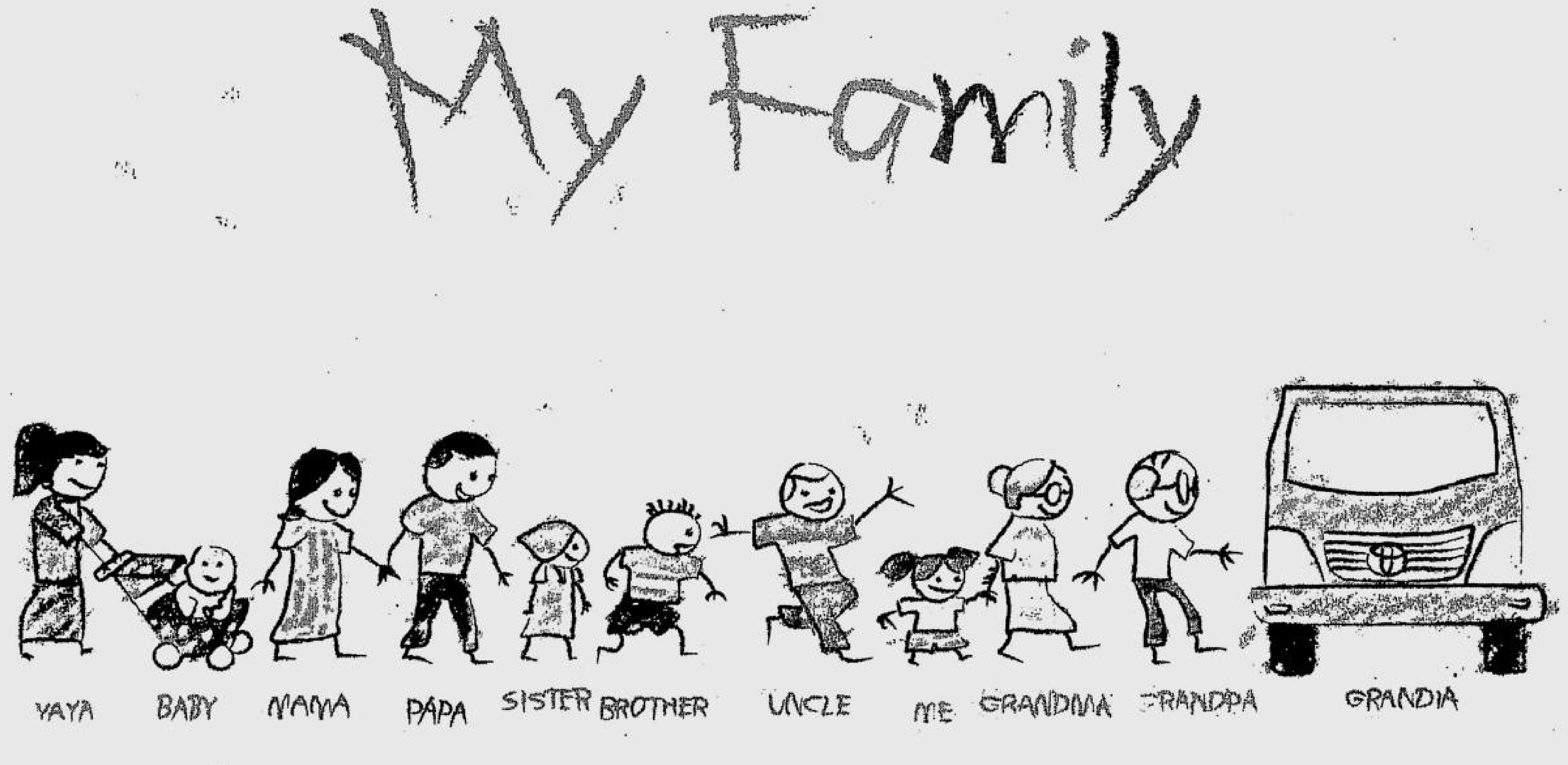

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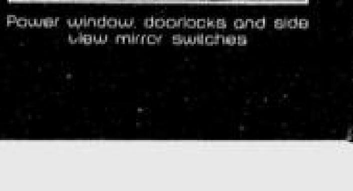
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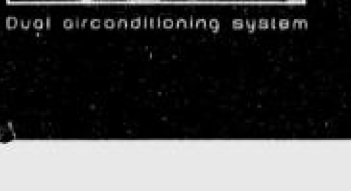
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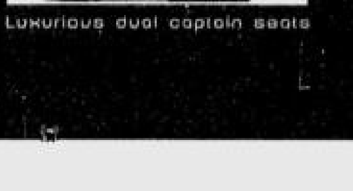
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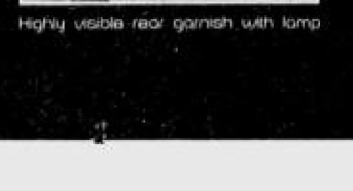
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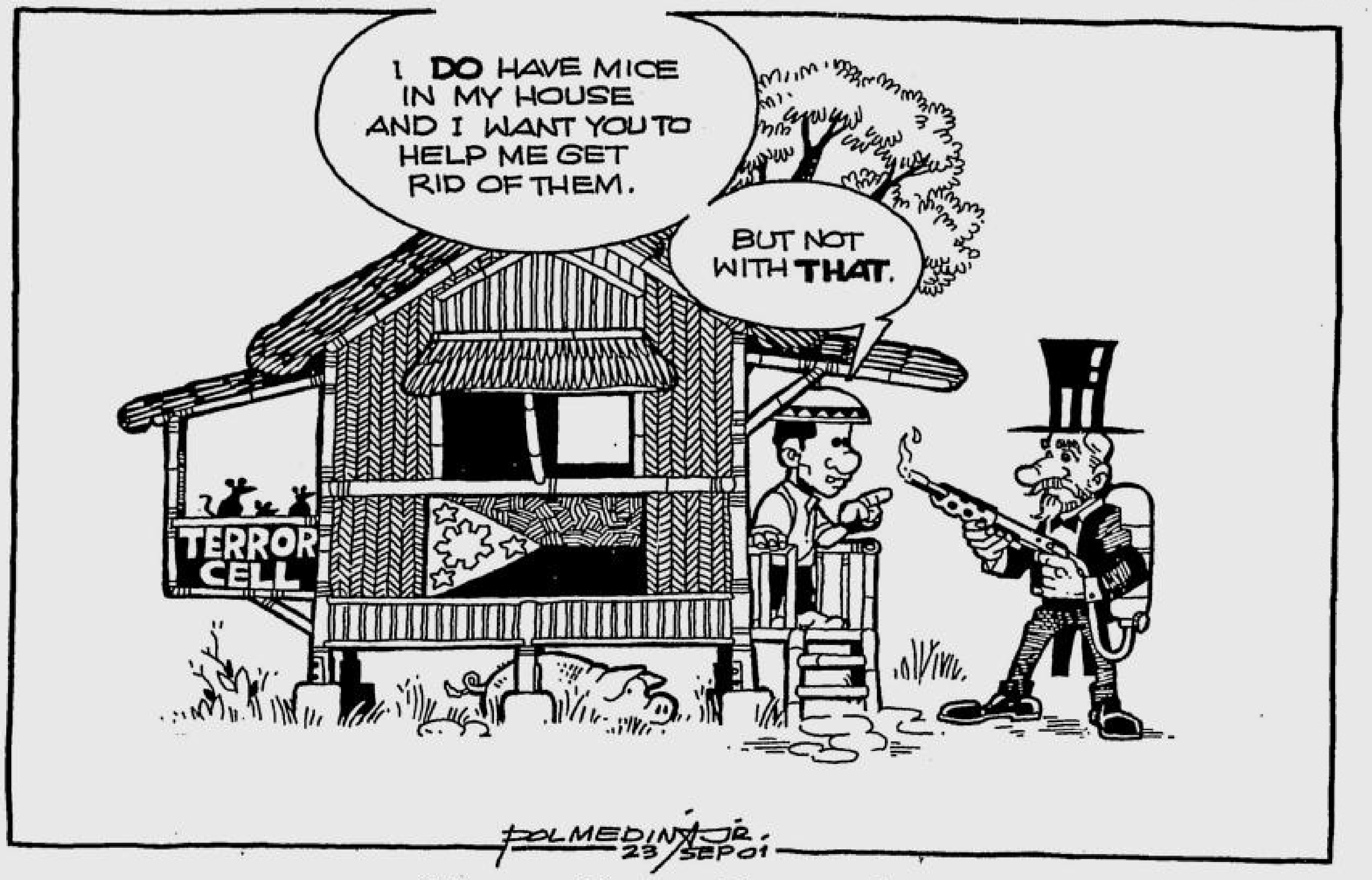
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EDITORIALS

Alarmists

THE DUST from the worst terrorist attack in history has yet to settle but our authorities have been playing Django with near trigger-happy ways, detaining foreigners with Middle-Eastern sounding names and combing Muslim quarters without even an excuse-me to the residents—men, women and children.

In fact, her underlings beat President Macapagal to pledging sweeping support to the US initiative to hit back at the terrorists, no matter the costs. Wanting either to impress their boss or to court American goodwill, they had fanned to the nethermost reaches of their jurisdiction, taking to task people whose only sin perhaps was to profess their faith in Islam or to be born dark, hairy, and Arab-looking. Their dragnet has no signs of abating.

Alerted, our authorities become alarmists. The overreaction is typical. There must be something in a dramatic event hogging the front page and dominating broadcast that whips up a storm of fervor in our officials to put behind bars any person that reeks remotely of terrorism and malfeasance. They may end up overpopulating our prisons with innocents, but no matter. They have ridden the bandwagon of public popularity and that is what counts.

For example, Immigration Commissioner Andrea Domingo identified four of the terrorist suspects as having passed the Philippines en route to their US mission. Domingo subsequently denied this, saying what she did was to identify the names of four recent visitors whose names were conspicuously similar to the names of suspects released by US authorities. She explained the yarn was really concocted by the members of the press who had an overwrought imagination.

But the damage has been done. In going to the press with a story that she should not have blabbered about in the first place, Domingo raised the alarm that the Philippines, by sheer omission, was harboring terrorists and did not do anything to stop them. She could have just shut her trap and verified with US officials and other sources the real identities of the four but she could not resist exploiting the issue to make herself good copy.

In the same way, immigration authorities have herded just about all Middle-Eastern-looking visitors to its Bicutan detention center at the risk of provoking a diplomatic backlash with the countries of the harassed nationals. In one radio interview, Domingo blurted out that even if there were no sound basis, they went ahead with the detention just to be sure. And then she checked herself, probably realizing the horrendous implications of what she was saying.

Terrorists

THIS is not to dismiss the achievements of our immigration authorities and intelligence services, particularly in the war against terrorism. It was, after all, Philippine authorities who arrested and turned over Ahmad Yousef, a suspect in the 1993 World Trade Center bombing, to the American authorities. Yousef was among those captured by our own law enforcers in connection with an apparent plot to assassinate Pope John Paul II during his second papal visit here in 1995. Moreover, immigration and other intelligence men were instrumental in the arrest of several Vietnamese nationals who allegedly planned a bombing attack recently on the Vietnamese embassy here.

But these successes do not give our law enforcers the license to run roughshod over the rights of Muslim Filipinos and foreigners. In the same manner, the deaths of thousands as a result of the terrorist attacks by Islamic militants in the US do not justify wholesale violation of rights of our Muslims here. Doing so would be an act of war on our own countrymen even before retaliatory US missiles have reached Afghanistan.

They may not know it but by their arbitrary law enforcement, our authorities give credence to the cause of the terrorists. Terrorist movements are notorious for racist and religious reductionism: they treat the West and its citizens as deserving of terrorist attacks as a comeuppance for the West's Orientalist pigeonholing of the rest of the world as non-white and non-Christian.

The task of all peace-loving nations is to give the lie to terrorism.

Neptali A. Gonzales

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

ANOTHER colleague has passed away, further diminishing my circle of contemporary struggling young professionals during the 50s. He was Neptali A. Gonzales, lawyer, law professor, lawmaker, and—above all—my cherished friend.

I used to call him Nep (he was Tali to others) until I asked him to stand as sponsor at the baptism of my son Claro in 1955. Thereafter, we addressed each other as "compadre," but that did not make our relationship more formal. There were some ideas and beliefs we did not share but they did not stand in the way of our friendship. We both became bar reviewers and wrote textbooks on the same subject, but we never considered ourselves rival.

We first met in 1954 at the fledgling Lyceum of the Philippines, where we cut our teeth at teaching in its law school. His first assignment was Statutory Construction; mine was Roman Law I, which was then part of the law curriculum. Both of us were assigned to the freshman year because we were novices who needed some experience.

The president of the Lyceum then was Jose P. Laurel and the dean of the College of Law was Claro M. Recto. Sotero H. Laurel was the executive secretary. The premier professor in Remedial Law was Pedro Sabido. Civil Law was handled by Arturo M. Tolentino and Desiderio P. Jurado, Criminal Law by Ambrosio Padilla. Jovito R. Salonga and Leon Ma. Guerrero taught International Law. Among the professors of Political Law were J. B. Laurel, Jr. and Felixberto Serrano.

Nep and I were obscure persons in the impressive faculty roster that, not surprisingly, attracted a record enrollment. The offices alone most of the members occupied in the government were enough to persuade many students to stake their future in the Lyceum. There were some unknown names like ours, but these did not deter them. All we had at the time was our academic credentials, such as they were, and some professional experience.

Little did we then imagine that Nep would in time hold the top position in the Senate and I would become senior associate justice of the Supreme Court, the second highest official in the judiciary. There was a difference between us, though, I attained my seniority, or capillarity if you will, only because of the successive retirements of colleagues ahead of me. My compadre Nep reached his summit by virtue of his outstanding legislative record and his personal affability.

Early in his teaching career, Nep decided to specialize in Political Law. Before long, he had branched out to other law colleges and developed a reputation as an authority on the subject. The books he had written on the various branches of the field—Philippine Political Law, Constitutional Law, Local Governments, Administrative Law, Public Officers and Election Law—made him pre-eminent among the bar reviewers during his time.

I had also decided to specialize in Political Law and prescribed Nep's book in all my subjects. I often deferred to him as my senior, but there were many interesting debates we had on the subject that, I am happy to recall, never deteriorated into bitter quarrels. We had occasional disagreements, and they were sometimes sharp, but they did not impair but in fact strengthened our mutual respect.

Once I dedicated a book to him on his birthday, describing him as my mentor "at whose feel I sit." He was so discomfited and said it gave him goose pimples. He repaid that tribute when, on the occasion of my retirement from the Supreme Court in 1994, he delivered a privilege speech in the Senate where he described me as "one of the greatest jurists in the world." It was my turn to be embarrassed. My compliment was private, but his was public. I don't believe what he said, of course, and neither should you, but I'm sure Nep did. He was never malicious.

Already noted as a professor and practitioner, Nep eventually, and I think inevitably, drifted to politics. After serving briefly as dean of the FEU College of Law, he was elected vice governor of Rizal and then congressman for the first district of that province. He was an outstanding member of the opposition in the Batasang Pambansa and, after Edsa I erupted, was appointed secretary of justice. He ended his political career after finishing two terms in the Senate, where he was elected president before retiring in 1998.

Nep had a wonderful sense of humor, which is one reason many people liked him. When he ran for the House of Representatives in 1969, he was considered the underdog because he was fighting two formidable rivals with much political and financial clout. He was not daunted. He used the familiar example of The Sandwich to exploit his situation. Describing his adversaries as the two slices in the sandwich, he compared himself to the "*palaman*" in between. "That's the best part of the sandwich," he said, "and that's me!" The audience howled at his metaphor and sent him to Congress.

My wife and I were having *merienda* at a restaurant one afternoon and we saw Nep with some persons at a table some distance away. We waved to each other. When we finished, I scooped up the money on the tray the waiter brought us and then waved Nep goodbye. We waved back. On the way home, I realized I had not paid our bill and that the change I got was not for me. It turned out that Nep had paid for us and that the waiter had mistakenly given us his change. I made amends later and we both had a good laugh.

Nep belongs to that remembered past in my life when he and I, and many others like us, were forging our future as young lawyers with still untarnished ideals and indomitable ambitions. As his friend, I was happy to see him rise from an obscure municipal employee to a prestigious position in the academe as a constitutionalist in the Philippine bar as an active and successful practitioner, and in the political arena, as a statesman of unblemished integrity and proven patriotism.

The nobility of Neptali A. Gonzales lay not in the high offices he held but simply in the humble virtues he offered during a lifetime of selfless service to his family, his country, and his God. What better words can I say of my departed friend? His life is his best eulogy.

Prudencio and Honesto

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

I AM writing this column on board PR 103 from Los Angeles to Manila, still shocked by the recent events in America, while trying to reflect on this Sunday's Gospel about the wise but dishonest steward (Lk.16,1-13). Whenever I fly PAL, a lot of stewards and stewardesses come to ask for a blessing, for advice or for confession. It is edifying to feel the sincerity and deep spirituality of these people who do hard and dangerous work, people who have been gifted with wings but are deeply rooted in God. Literally, it is an experience of being so near to God.

* * *

Just now, flight steward Aries del Rosario approached me. He found a set of dentures in a plastic cup in one of the lavatories. What to do? For sure the owner will be inconvenienced with the loss of his dentures. But to announce it publicly on board would be embarrassing. So he decided to go around and discreetly ask all the passengers one by one.

I commend him for his efforts. Here was an honest steward. Not only honest, but wise and prudent as well! Here was a person who uses a plane to serve people, so unlike the terrorists who used planes to kill people. Aries, *Pinoy, mabuhay ka!*

* * *

I congratulate people who are wise and successful in the business and corporate world. Jesus commended the wise steward for his cunning but he goes on to say that it is not all right to be dishonest and unjust. In other words, Jesus reminds us that it is all right to make money but it is not all right to make dirty money, money acquired by cheating, dishonesty, violence or fraud. All right, sir? The money you have—is it dirty money?

* * *

The terrorists who planned and carried out the attacks, using American planes to kill Americans on American soil were wise and were committed till death. If only the good among us had half of their wisdom and commitment in our pursuit of goodness, truth and justice. Why is that we spend so much time, planning and effort when it comes to earning more money, and in contrast do not have as much interest in matters of the heart and the soul? Do you still remember what we learned in our catechism: that our purpose in life is to love God with all our heart, with our entire mind, and with all our strength? Is this happening in your life?

* * *

One clear message of the World Trade Center catastrophe is that anything we have built can collapse in just one moment. Yes, life is short, so we should live it right. Human achievement is frail, so we should build on God. Are you living right? Are you building on God?

* * *

I don't know if it is basic in human nature, or just the Pinoy in us that makes us feel good when we put one over others (*nakaisa ako*) and get away with it (*naisahan ko sila*). This "*nakaisa*" mentality is so evident in the way we drive, the way we do politics, the way we do business. And so it is that you hear people talk and brag about their wisdom and facility in making another million, making another contract, making another gimmick, regardless of who got hurt or cheated in the process.

Are you one of these people? When will you graduate from this "*nakaisa*" mentality? Jesus' message is that of being honest, being good, and being one with our brothers and sisters. *Makiisa ka naman*! When will we ever learn that what matters in this life is that "*nakiisa ako*" (I expressed oneness) and not "*nakaisa ako*" (I put one over others). *Sige, ikaw rin, baka maisahan ka rin* someday. That's for sure. There will be a final reckoning. The good will be rewarded; the bad will be punished.

* * *

I was in San Francisco on the morning of Sept. 11. It was indeed a day of emergency. What struck me was how the whole country came together for comfort, strength, and how the whole nation came together in prayer. The tragedy brought out the best in everyone. Even the media coverage was geared towards the positive. No showing of mangled bodies, no politicians giving speeches, no dissenting voices. I wish we could do the same whenever tragedy strikes us. May we learn the values of unity, honesty, sacrifice and prudence. We need these badly in the Philippines today.

* * *

In line with being prudent, I am inviting you dear friends, way ahead of time, for the "Walk with God" to Manaoag on Oct. 6, 2001. The 13-kilometer, three-and-a-half-hour walk, which starts at the Urdaneta Church at 6 a.m. and ends with the 11 a.m. Mass at the Shrine of Our Lady of Manaoag in Pangasinan, will be an expression of our gratitude to God for blessings received and an expression of our petitions as individuals, as families, as a nation, and for world peace. About 4,000 people joined us last May. Mama Mary will be happy to see more for her Son Jesus!

* * *

In line with being honest, I will turn 48 on Oct. 1. The same day will also see the launching of my third book "Simple Moments," a collection of more stories, experiences, anecdotes and reflections. It starts with a 4:30 p.m. Mass at Christ the King Seminary along E. Rodriguez Boulevard in Quezon City. Hope to see you there, and we hope that this simple book will be a big help to raise funds for our Filipino missionaries overseas, especially this coming Christmas.

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, make me wise, but more so, honest and good in this life. Amen.

The geopolitics of the drug trade

CROSSCURRENTS

Antonio T. Carpio

WHAT do the Taliban, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) and the People's Liberation Army (PLA) of China have in common? All of them are engaged in, or are at least profiting from, the illegal drug trade. Profits from the opium trade allow Afghanistan's Taliban to maintain its army and fight its many enemies. Revenues from the cocaine trade finance the well-armed FARC guerrillas. Protection money from Hong Kong triads operating shabu laboratories in Southern China helps the PLA modernize its weapons.

Last May 25, 2001, the United Nations Drug Control Office reported to the UN Security Council that the Taliban was selling opium to finance its war against the northern rebels. The Taliban also uses profits from opium to train terrorists and support Muslim extremists operating in other countries. The report belied the claim of Mullah Mohammed Omar, the Taliban's supreme leader, that he had banned the cultivation of opium for being "un-Islamic." The UN Drug Control Office concluded that after stockpiling opium, the Taliban halted cultivation to prevent prices from plummeting.

The Taliban controls 95 percent of the land area of Afghanistan, which supplies 80 percent of the world's opium. Most of this opium ends up in Western and Eastern Europe. Opium cultivation is Afghanistan's biggest and most lucrative industry. Recently, the Taliban tried to import large quantities of acetic anhydride, a key ingredient in processing opium into heroin. The UN Security Council has now banned the sale of acetic anhydride to Afghanistan.

The Marxist FARC rebels control an area of Colombia as large as Switzerland. Coca plantations abound in this area, and FARC derives significant revenues by levying taxes on coca farmers, coca traders, and coca processing laboratories controlled by drug lords. The well-financed FARC guerrillas have forced the Colombian armed forces into a stalemate, and the Colombian government has now even conceded administrative authority of FARC-controlled area to the rebels.

All the shabu that enters the Philippines come from Southern China where most of the shabu laboratories are located. In the last two weeks, several shipments of shabu from China were intercepted at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport. One shipment of 39.8 kilos of high-grade shabu, valued at P90 million, was found concealed in two large boxes containing ceramic jars shipped through FedEx from Guangzhou, China. Another shipment of five kilos of shabu, valued at P10 million, was discovered inside a ceramic jar brought by a Chinese passenger from Xiamen, China. A third shipment of eight kilos of shabu, worth P16 million, was also recovered from another passenger from Xiamen, China.

Who operates the shabu laboratories in Southern China? Who are protecting these shabu laboratories? It is a fact that these shabu laboratories cannot operate without the protection or connivance of Chinese authorities, local or national. It is now widely known that prior to the handover of Hong Kong to China in 1997, the PLA and the Hong Kong triads had already forged business alliances. When China took back Hong Kong, this alliance was strengthened further. This alliance was confirmed by China's security minister who recently said "not all of the triads are bad; some of them love the Motherland."

The Sun Yee On triad, one of the most active triads in Hong Kong, is well-entrenched in both Shanghai and Shenzhen, operating a number of nightclubs and prostitution joints. The Da Quan Bang or Big Circle triad, founded in Guangzhou by former Red Guards, moved to Hong Kong after the Cultural Revolution. The Big Circle triad returned to the mainland after the hand-over of Hong Kong, and is now the leading triad in the entire mainland. The partner and backer of the Sun Yee On and the Big Circle triads is none other than the PLA.

It cannot be denied that the Hong Kong triads are the criminal syndicates that bring in the shabu from Southern China to the Philippines. It cannot also be denied that many Hong Kong triads, whose known partner is the PLA, are operating almost freely in Southern China where all the shabu laboratories are found. The P50-billion-a-year illegal drug trade in the Philippines is contributing immensely not only to the wealth of the triads but also to the coffers of the PLA.

The US Congress has established that the PLA is engaged in many commercial activities, both licit and illicit, and is using income from these commercial activities to purchase new military hardware, often surreptitiously from the West. The US Congress estimates that the PLA earns some $3 billion annually from these commercial activities, dramatically boosting its defense spending. The Chinese government had previously encouraged the PLA to engage in commercial activities following the Communist Party's decision to allocate more government resources to building up the economy.

Recently, President Jiang Zemin ordered the PLA to divest from its businesses because of complaints from legitimate businessmen. Jiang Zemin's order may force the PLA to eventually give up its licit businesses but the order is not expected to apply to the PLA's illicit businesses.

The Philippines should lead an Asean-wide campaign to persuade China to close down all shabu laboratories operating on its soil. As a permanent member of the UN Security Council and as an incoming member of the World Trade Organization, China should never allow shabu laboratories to operate within its territory. A great power like China, seeking recognition and respect from the world community, has no business harboring criminals engaged in the illegal drug trade. China must put an end to this shameful activity within its borders.

Stranded in Madrid

COMMENTARY

Belinda A. Aquino

AlCALA DE HENARES, Madrid—The participants in the recent Fourth European Philippine Studies Conference, which was hosted for the first time by a university in Spain, were in an upbeat mood. But as we approached the Rizal monument to begin a tour of Rizal's Madrid on the second day of the conference, a pall of gloom descended as phones announced the "bombing" of the World Trade Center in New York. It wasn't until much later that we learned it wasn't so much a bombing as a ramming of the Twin Towers by suicide terrorist commandos who had hijacked two planes out of Boston to carry out their lethal mission of death and destruction.

The conference went on as scheduled but it became clear that those of us who were bound for US destinations were going to be stranded. We burned the phones for information to no avail. The best thing to do was just to go to the Madrid airport and take your chances. Some managed to get reservations after a couple of days. Others just waited it out and were resigned to an unsettling "stranding."

Because I have three destinations from Madrid to the other side of the world—Munich, San Francisco and Honolulu—I was in the worst-case scenario. I was informed I could fly out to Munich but there was no guarantee I could get a flight to San Francisco. (I'd rather be stranded in Madrid where I know some people than in Munich.) Worse, I was informed that my flight from San Francisco to Honolulu was canceled in any case.

There are times that try people's souls and this is one of them. You feel like climbing walls. You feel an impending sense of doom. You're in denial: this can't be happening. And you're angry: why does this have to happen to me? Also, some fear overcomes you: what if something were to happen to me here, who'd know?

Fortunately, there's one other human emotion that plays out: a sense of resignation. There's nothing you can do about it, so make the best of it. And in the end, to save your sanity, you just have to force yourself to accept the reality of it all. And even find a justification. It makes you feel better.

In my case, that justification is, at least you're not in a hostage situation. And this is not such a bad place to be stranded in. It could be worse. Everyone's gone but now I feel that I have this entire place to myself, to remember.

Alcala de Henares is on the outskirts of Madrid whose soil is nourished by the Henares river, which gives its name to the city. It is best known as the birthplace of Miguel de Cervantes, author of the celebrated "Don Quixote de la Mancha." As you might have guessed, I'm here in the heart of Plaza Cervantes looking at his statue and trying to remember what course I took at the University of the Philippines, which made "Don Quixote" required reading. It is easier to just sit down in the open air square, sipping the more celebrated Spanish *cerveza*. Light that is, not *negra* or I'll never be able to find my hotel.

The second mark of distinction of this city is the University of Alcala, which is as old as you can imagine old to be, because Alcala is certainly very old. In fact, it is ancient. There were prehistoric settlements in this city with the Romans building their city of Complutum, and the Arabs erecting a fortress and giving a name to the future city, Alcala, which means castle in Arabic. You become absorbed in its history.

In 1293, King Sancho IV signed the charter establishing the "General Studies of Alcala." And on April 13, 1499, Pope Alexander IV issued the papal bull granting Cardinal Cisneros permission to transform General Studies to a university. The first students registered in 1508.

After King Ferdinand (the other half of Queen Isabela) gave the new university official recognition in 1512, the institution quickly became famous. Its influence extended to America, which modeled its first universities after Alcala.

A word on Cardinal Cisneros, who gave the university its age of splendor. Francisco Jimenez de Cisneros was a Franciscan friar who was the confessor of the Queen and the archbishop of Toledo. His work involved making improvements in the Alcala government and he eventually transformed the medieval town into a renaissance city. He was a promoter of ecclesiastical reform in Castile. He created a major college for the clergy and the St. Luke's Hospital. In addition, he founded other disciplines such as Canon Law, Grammar, Theology, Physics, Philosophy and Medicine with bachelor's, masteral and doctoral degrees available.

This was the intellectual atmosphere that attracted Rodrigo de Cervantes to Alcala. His son Miguel would later earn the distinction of being the "most representative" of the Spanish language novelists.

I will need two more strandings probably to complete even just half of the 65 buildings in the university complex, housing anything from "*corral de comedias*" circa 1601 to the "*Colegio de Abogados*." I take out my camera to take a photo as I cross one of the streets adjoining the Residencia de San Ildefonso, where I am stranded.

The name of the street? Calle Santo Tomas de Aquino! I'm pretty sure he was not my ancestor. But who knows?

Understanding Osama's human bombs

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

IT IS the most supreme of ironies: the world's lone superpower, armed with the most sophisticated weapons, feels besieged by an enemy who lives and works in complete anonymity in middle-class America, ready to attack and die at a signal. His methods are modern, his beliefs medieval.

For the longest time, Americans have been monitoring any attempt by any country, friend or foe, to build a nuclear capability. Lately, they have focused their attention on the capacity of some countries to create and deploy chemical and biological weapons. In their fixation with the technology of aggression, they forgot to pay attention to the psychology of hate that drives it. They were so busy spying upon rogue states abroad that they failed to give equal attention to the low-tech but highly motivated individual terrorists operating at home.

Part of the problem perhaps lies in the popular images that American movies have created about terrorists. In the rationalist vocabulary of American culture, these caricatures conjure images of wild-eyed, bearded fanatics whose style of life and methods are as obsolete as the beliefs they espouse. The turbaned Osama bin Laden has become the stereotypical face of the modern terrorist. He wears a long beard, is garbed in traditional clothes, quotes from the Koran, and carries an archaic AK-47 rifle.

But one look at the faces of the 19 hijackers, who boarded and commandeered the passenger planes that they then methodically slammed at lethal angles against the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, would tell us how differently these suicide terrorists looked from their supposed leader. They were clean-shaven, they wore well-cut Western clothes, and they rode in either first class or business class, looking like highly paid executives or US-bred Middle Eastern heirs shuttling to some meeting or party.

Documentation of the hijackers' movements prior to the attacks reveals that they lived like regular, law-abiding and even thoughtful fellows who by the ordinariness of their daily routines became invisible to the radar screens of the FBI and the CIA. Some of them were observed to have occasionally enjoyed a few drinks at local bars, maybe to give the impression that they were just carefree immigrants who had outgrown the ancient restrictions of their ancestors' religion. Nothing in their lifestyle suggested that they were anything but fully Americanized persons of Arabic origin.

Who would have guessed that these same men, who diligently went to flying school, learning how to fly big commercial airliners, were actually terrorists preparing for a grand attack in which they knew they were going to die? It would be fascinating to inquire into how a suicide mission of this scale and ambition and which requires faultless timing and extreme precision could have been planned and prepared for over an extended period, without anyone of its individual participants entertaining any second thoughts about it.

It defies all common sense that anyone could so isolate his pre-modern beliefs, keep a tight rein on them to avoid detection, and follow the cycle of modern American living in all its individualism and self-indulgence without being affected by it. Such capacity for psychic and cognitive compartmentalization is rare indeed. People who swear by the superiority of the American way of life would certainly not think it possible. To them, it simply does not make any sense.

The German sociologist Max Weber would have been equally hard-pressed to classify such behavior. There are four basic types of human conduct, he said.

"Rational goal-oriented conduct" characterizes the behavior of the modern person who is results-oriented and instrumentalist in every way. "Rational value-oriented conduct" is behavior that is controlled by strict personal values; the behavior may appear irrational when not viewed in the light of a person's belief system. "Affectual conduct" is governed purely by emotions, whereas "traditional conduct" is dictated by customary rules.

The behavior of the Sept. 11 suicide hijackers seems to contain elements from all four of Weber's ideal types. These men were resolutely goal-oriented; they may have been mad, but there was method in their madness. At the same time, they must clearly have been governed by deeply rooted values, which inoculated them from the Western way of life. They must also have been filled with an intense hatred for America. And the heritage of their ancestors, in all its mythical glory, must have supplied the solidarity they felt with one another and with the "higher" cause to which they offered their lives.

To call them "irrational" is to fail to appreciate the complexity of the behavior we are dealing with here. These were by no means ordinary terrorists. They planned to inflict the greatest possible injury on a perceived enemy, but they were also willing to die in the effort. A scheme like this requires not only maximum secrecy, but also systematic and long-term preparation, including the acquisition of the technical skills needed to fly and maneuver the planes they used as guided missiles.

No behavior could be more rationally goal-oriented than this. Yet Weber would have insisted that this form of conduct is to be found only in the thoroughly modern person. He would have been stunned to see it neatly spliced and murderously attached to a pre-modern mind.

The forthcoming triumph of overseas Filipinos

COMMENTARY

Jeremaiah M. Opiano
Institute on Church and Social Issues

ONE cannot blame 50-year-old I.T. businessman Robert Ceralvo for coming to Manila in order to attend to a matter that is close to his heart: the right to vote. Ceralvo, together with 49 other foreign-based Filipino advocates of absentee voting, was here from Aug. 19 to 23 to lobby for the passage of an overseas voting law, which President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo certified as urgent in her State-of-the-Nation Address (Sona).

Ceralvo was a political detainee during the martial-law period, together with Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr., before he migrated to the United States in the early 1980s. When the advocates, who form part of a global delegation, paid a courtesy visit to the Senate on Aug. 22, it was like old times for Ceralvo and Pimentel.

Before they embraced each other, Ceralvo first urged the senators to give him a chance to vote. Ceralvo disclosed that he has not voted in any election. "I pay my taxes dutifully. I send my remittances on time. But please, distinguished senators, give me the chance to vote," he pleaded.

In reply, Senate President Franklin Drilon said: "We will give you that chance." Pimentel nodded to his old buddy in approval.

At the end of their lobbying work, Ceralvo was brimming with hope that finally the dream of over seven million documented and undocumented workers and immigrants of being able to vote will be realized.

The global delegation, which was spearheaded by groups and networks such as *Kapisanan ng mga Kamag-anak ng Migranteng Manggagawang Pilipino* (Kakammpi), Platform of Filipino Migrant Organizations in Europe (Platform), Global Coalition for the Political Empowerment of Filipinos (Empower), and eLAGDA (Connecting Filipinos through Technology), was, like Ceralvo, happy and optimistic over the turn of events in Congress.

At the House of Representatives, members of the global delegation and some members of the locally based Philippine Migrants' Rights Watch, of which Kakammpi is a member, were successful in consolidating all the absentee voting bills which have provisions "that promote 'inclusivity,'" quoting eLAGDA executive director Noel Esquela. During a technical working group (TWG) meeting last Aug. 28, the civil society advocates faced off with the chiefs of staff of lawmakers who filed absentee voting bills. It was a happy ending for everyone as all TWG participants prepared for the formal congressional hearing the next day.

The joint hearing, conducted by the committees on suffrage and electoral reforms, foreign affairs, and labor and employment, saw the approval of the consolidated version (from bills filed by 14 authors). According to Erwin Lara, suffrage committee secretary, the approved consolidated version will be sent to the chamber for the first and second readings.

As to the contents of the consolidated bill, these turned out to be favorable to overseas Filipinos. For example, in terms of the coverage of absentee voting, which is perhaps the most controversial portion of the bill, it was agreed upon that absentee voting will be open to Filipinos who can prove their Filipino citizenship by showing either their passport or any other relevant document.

The consolidated House bill, which is yet to be numbered, also states that absentee voting will be open to all kinds of overseas Filipinos—documented or undocumented, sea- or land-based workers, and temporary workers and permanent residents. But the legislators should make sure that indeed, our undocumented workers will be included. Their immigration status should not bar overseas Filipinos from exercising their right to vote.

Members of the global delegation also called on the Commission on Elections to allow Filipino communities and NGOs abroad to be part of the whole electoral process—from the drafting of the implementing rules and regulations for absentee voting, to the registration, up to the canvassing and counting of votes.

From the way it looks, the House can pass the absentee voting bill by December 2001, fulfilling the promise of Speaker Jose de Venecia, one of the sponsors of the consolidated bill. However, the attention must shift to the Senate since that chamber has not passed the absentee voting bill in the last three sessions of Congress. During the global delegation's visit to the Senate, Drilon said point-blank that the chamber may not be able to pass the bill this December because it is working on the national budget. "However, you can be assured that the Senate will pass the bill before the 2004 polls," Drilon said.

Thus, the Senate should be the target of intensive civil society action. Had the senators immediately worked on the absentee voting bill during the time of the global delegation's visit, absentee voting could have been the Senate's first major accomplishment before they took a two-week break, which started September 7. Unfortunately, and disgustingly, the Senate failed to pass even a single bill before their recess. The fear that the Senate will set aside once again absentee voting as an electoral reform measure remains a threat, even if senators gave the same old promises.

The absentee voting bill is a non-partisan legislative measure. If passed, the triumph goes to civil society, like the Urban Development Housing Act and the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law, with people's organizations and NGOs leading the advocacy. More deserving of this victory, however, are the overseas Filipinos who literally saved the country from economic ruin.

The prospective passage of the absentee voting bill depends on the lawmakers' cooperation and the increased advocacy efforts of civil society in the Senate. But lawmakers should be made aware that it is time to finally empower overseas Filipinos to help change the course of the country's political history and, in the long run, significantly improve these Filipinos' plight abroad. The absentee vote come 2004 can make those changes work.

THEY SAID

Lesser calamity

"When you are faced with two calamities and must choose one, then it is better to choose the lesser one."

—Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf, explaining his decision to help the United States get Osama bin Laden

Old Afghanistan

"Historically our nation has acted in accordance with the guidance and tenets of Islam, embraced moderation and tolerance, opposed terrorism."

—Former Afghanistan King Mohammed Zahir Shah

Undermining Marcos

"The Marcos dictatorship was already being eroded as a credible government because of the struggles of these faceless, nameless people."

—Task Force Detainees of the Philippines executive director Aurora Parong, speaking of the martial-law victims

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TALK OF THE TOWN

JOHN NERY, Editor

Join the discussion. E-mail us at talk@inquirer.com.ph

How do we make sense of it all?

WORSE atrocities on civilian populations have been committed, but because the September 11, 2001 terrorist strike happened on once-impregnable Fortress America—on live television with an international audience in the millions, using the resources of an open society against itself to create a new and breathtakingly ruthless weapon, and with an unprecedented and dramatic loss of life and property—the event raises questions about first principles and ultimate beliefs. It was an overwhelming event, but what does it mean?

The silence of God

FR. FERDINAND SANTOS, PH.D.
Professor of Philosophy and Theology, San Carlos Seminary

THE MUTENESS of a God who seems too absent when evil rears its ugly head is an experience all too familiar to many of us. No matter how strong and resilient our faith, the experience of evil often creates a stumbling block to a complete trust in the power of Providence. Suffering, whether our own or that of others, always serves to open the floodgates of questioning and doubt. *Why?* we ask. Why do we suffer? Why does God allow so much pain and misery?

We find it close to impossible to comprehend and accept that a God of power and compassion could not have done anything to stop the carnage of September 11. We ourselves are struck dumb whenever we try to understand the terror of evil vis-à-vis God's power; after all the two seem completely irreconcilable. But could it be our way of understanding one part of the God-and-evil-equation that is dubious?

God's power, we believe, is such that he can do anything and everything he wants. And not even the worst kind of evil can stand up to him if he wanted to eradicate it. It's easy to see how this can lead us to ask why he doesn't get rid of it. But the fact is, it represents a mistaken notion of what divine power means. It's also one of the greatest theological errors of all time.

Far from being a truly divine kind of power, it is rather the power of an almighty tyrant who is believed to be able to do anything at will. Far from representing a humble stance in the presence of the creator of the universe, it is actually an arrogant projection of what man wishes he himself possessed, i.e., the ability to mold existence according to his liking.

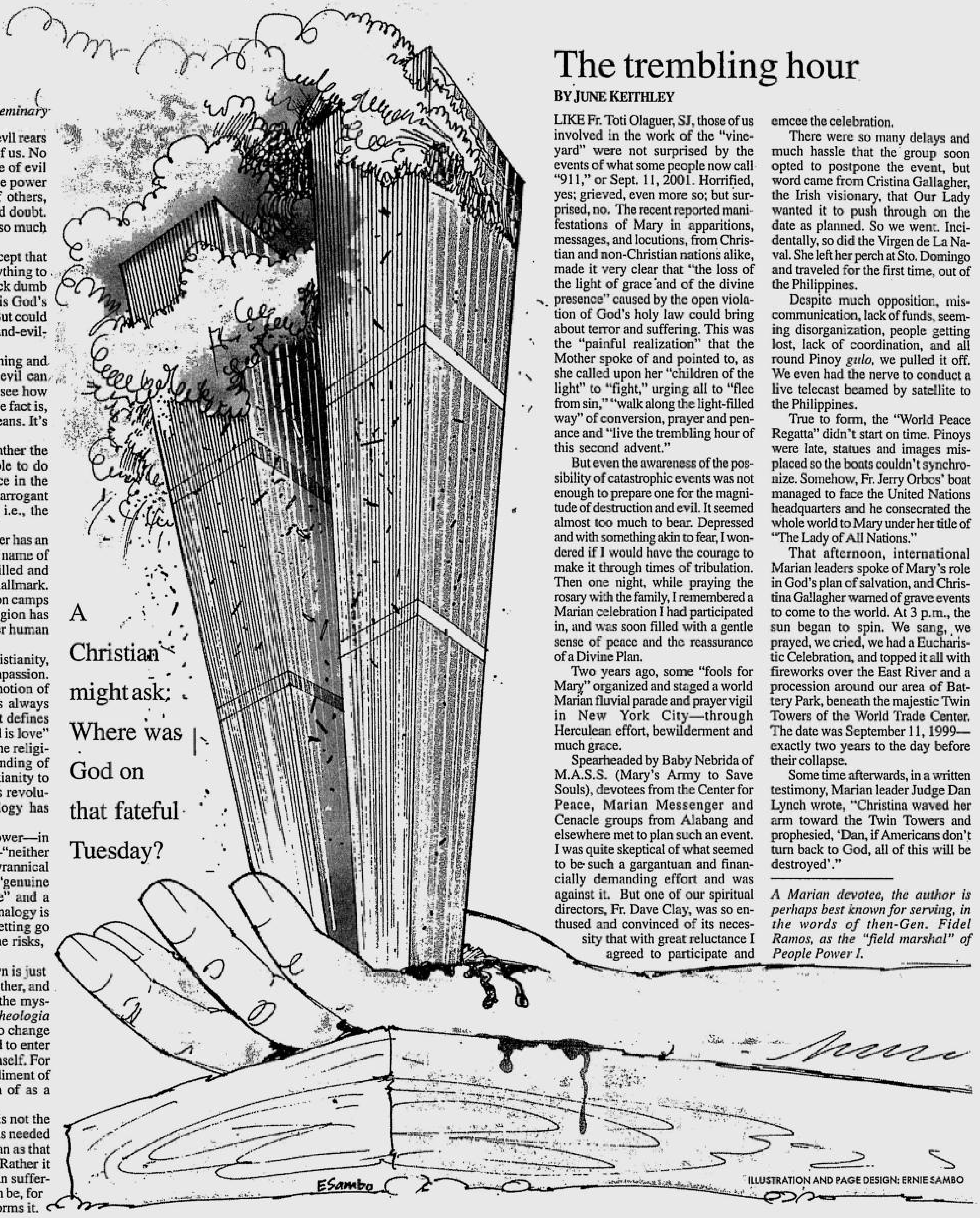
But more than that, this misguided idea of divine power has an even more treacherous and sinister side to it. For in the name of this tyrant-God, men throughout the ages have been killed and have killed. Intolerance, not compassion, has been its hallmark. Crusades, inquisitions, gulags, lynch mobs, concentration camps and terrorism are but some of its fruits. Inauthentic religion has destroyed more lives throughout the ages than any other human institution.

The great monotheistic religions of the West—Christianity, Judaism and Islam—are one in teaching a God of compassion. "Love" defines the *Abba* of Jesus Christ. In fact, any notion of power that can be gleaned from Christ's teachings is always circumscribed within his teaching on "love." It is what defines divine power in scripture. The Christian tenet that "God is love" is more than a pious slogan of a simplistic and saccharine religiosity. Rather, it is the foundation of a radical understanding of power that is one of the greatest contributions of Christianity to the evolution of human thought. Love is Christianity's revolutionary philosophy of power. Sadly, traditional theology has often neglected this idea.

Understood in the context of what divine love is, power—in the words of the philosopher Alfred North Whitehead—"neither rules nor is unmoved." It's a power, defined not by tyrannical control, but by taking the supreme "risk" of allowing "genuine freedom" in the world. Its foundation is a "letting-be" and a "letting-go" for the sake of genuine growth. Its perfect analogy is that of a parent, anxious and yet brave enough to risk letting go of a son or daughter trusting that this alone, despite the risks, will allow the child to come into his or her own.

That God takes risks for creation to come into its own is just one part of Christianity's understanding of power. The other, and more important, part is God's conscious entering into the mystery of suffering itself. Mystical theology calls it a *theologia crucis*—a "theology of the cross." God, being unable to change the inexorable law of freedom and risk, chooses instead to enter into the very heart of the mystery of evil, and suffers himself. For Christians, the death of Christ on the cross is the embodiment of this divine tragedy which some mystics have spoken of as a "spear thrust at the very heart of God himself."

The silence of God in the face of evil and suffering is not the silence of a God who chooses to abandon man when he is needed most. Neither is it the silence of a God who "carries" man as that overly pious "footsteps in the sand" analogy portrays. Rather it is a silence that represents a total participation in human suffering. As such it is the most radical form of power there can be, for it does not explain away evil, but takes it up and transforms it.



A Christian might ask: Where was God on that fateful Tuesday?

ILLUSTRATION AND PAGE DESIGN: ERNIE SAMBO

The trembling hour

BY JUNE KEITHLEY

LIKE Fr. Toti Olaguer, SJ, those of us involved in the work of the "vineyard" were not surprised by the events of what some people now call "911," or Sept. 11, 2001. Horrified, yes; grieved, even more so; but surprised, no. The recent reported manifestations of Mary in apparitions, messages, and locutions, from Christian and non-Christian nations alike, made it very clear that "the loss of the light of grace and of the divine presence" caused by the open violation of God's holy law could bring about terror and suffering. This was the "painful realization" that the Mother spoke of and pointed to, as she called upon her "children of the light" to "fight," urging all to "flee from sin," "walk along the light-filled way" of conversion, prayer and penance and "live the trembling hour of this second advent."

But even the awareness of the possibility of catastrophic events was not enough to prepare one for the magnitude of destruction and evil. It seemed almost too much to bear. Depressed and with something akin to fear, I wondered if I would have the courage to make it through times of tribulation. Then one night, while praying the rosary with the family, I remembered a Marian celebration I had participated in, and was soon filled with a gentle sense of peace and the reassurance of a Divine Plan.

Two years ago, some "fools for Mary" organized and staged a world Marian fluvial parade and prayer vigil in New York City—through Herculean effort, bewilderment and much grace.

Spearheaded by Baby Nebrida of M.A.S.S. (Mary's Army to Save Souls), devotees from the Center for Peace, Marian Messenger and Cenacle groups from Alabang and elsewhere met to plan such an event. I was quite skeptical of what seemed to be such a gargantuan and financially demanding effort and was against it. But one of our spiritual directors, Fr. Dave Clay, was so enthused and convinced of its necessity that with great reluctance I agreed to participate and emcee the celebration.

There were so many delays and much hassle that the group soon opted to postpone the event, but word came from Cristina Gallagher, the Irish visionary, that Our Lady wanted it to push through on the date as planned. So we went. Incidentally, so did the Virgen de La Naval. She left her perch at Sto. Domingo and traveled for the first time, out of the Philippines.

Despite much opposition, miscommunication, lack of funds, seeming disorganization, people getting lost, lack of coordination, and all round Pinoy *gulo*, we pulled it off. We even had the nerve to conduct a live telecast beamed by satellite to the Philippines.

True to form, the "World Peace Regatta" didn't start on time. Pinoys were late, statues and images misplaced so the boats couldn't synchronize. Somehow, Fr. Jerry Orbos' boat managed to face the United Nations headquarters and he consecrated the whole world to Mary under her title of "The Lady of All Nations."

That afternoon, international Marian leaders spoke of Mary's role in God's plan of salvation, and Christina Gallagher warned of grave events to come to the world. At 3 p.m., the sun began to spin. We sang, we prayed, we cried, we had a Eucharistic Celebration, and topped it all with fireworks over the East River and a procession around our area of Battery Park, beneath the majestic Twin Towers of the World Trade Center. The date was September 11, 1999—exactly two years to the day before their collapse.

Some time afterwards, in a written testimony, Marian leader Judge Dan Lynch wrote, "Christina waved her arm toward the Twin Towers and prophesied, 'Dan, if Americans don't turn back to God, all of this will be destroyed'."

A Marian devotee, the author is perhaps best known for serving, in the words of then-Gen. Fidel Ramos, as the "field marshal" of People Power I.

Anno Domini

BY CHITO TORRES

NEW YORK—A week later, the clothes I wore that day lie in a crumpled heap. My wife's frantic voice message is perfectly preserved as digital bits in the answering machine's memory chip. I debate having my clothes cleaned, refuse to release the message into electrical oblivion. I am tormented by the ludicrous analogy of Pilate's washing—will I be denying my witnessing and thereby dishonor the fallen?

For my family, even the most sublime changes are both cloying and telling. The ultra-efficient wife, still shaken, has forsworn all planes and trains and revels in a *longer* commute to the city. Work is not work when there is no office to work in. Leftover lunches at home are comforting but have none of the ambiance of the now-missed dungeon-of-a-cafeteria on Church Street. But of course we give thanks for these tiny stings that remind us we are alive—for very many others in our communities, the vacuum in their homes is unspeakable, unbearable, unfathomable.

"Why?" "How?" "What for?" That day throttles us by the neck, demanding an explanation and an accounting. Our little minds are on the edge of their finiteness, grappling with uncertainty. For evil like this to have passed, we need to find a reason. We yearn for a flash of clarity to bridge the chasm of mortality that has opened up at our very feet, threatening to swallow us. Sadly enough, for many that "Eureka!" moment may not come, or may be cloaked in so many maybes. Unless…

Man has always had a tendency to index life-altering events against a timeline, with temporal milestones complementing the marble monuments that serve to hold places in history. Today's generations will invariably benchmark their lives relative to one otherwise beautiful September morning in New York City, much as my Filipino parents' generation wistfully recalls the abrupt end to a different halcyon era when another plane slammed into Mt. Manunggal on a moonlit night in 1957. Regrettably enough, in discerning the truth of the tragedy of September 11, 2001 A.D., we take for granted the One in whose time—"in the year of the Lord"—these events have transpired. Yet taking a moment to pause and contemplate in faith "*Anno Domini*" and that Bethlehem day two millennia ago gives one—even one as obtuse as myself—reason and hope.

At a memorial service a week after the event, as I sat in the pews considering our parish priest's stories of "Georgie" (survived by wife and four children), one thing became abundantly clear to me. That day was not so much about evil, or even entirely of the lost. This tragedy has unleashed a joyous flood of generous giving, love, and comforting kinship the likes of which I have never seen – belying the otherwise self-absorbed and impassive New York of the stereotype. Long-lost friends, family, and even well-wishers who are veritable strangers to us have showered us with their messages of concern. Prayers for peace and wellbeing follow us wherever we go and whatever we do.

I now know that that day, in bringing out all that is God and good in us, is as much about our rebirth as it is about death. Two thousand years ago, God's only Son died on the cross out of love for and to save sinful man. Today, as we struggle with our known losses and cry in anticipation of the yet unknown human cost of the next "war", we take strength in our common unity as men and women of faith – whether we know it or not – in one God. In the year of the Lord 2001, on that day, we found a glimmer of redemption via a new Calvary in downtown New York City.

The author works at an international rating agency a block away from 5 WTC, while his wife works at an investment bank located across 1 WTC. He writes: "We are blessed with four children … have been profoundly struck by this experience, and are in awe of the saving power of God in our lives."

Talking points

THE VISUAL has its own logic. In this page, the use of oversize illustrations has often been simply to set the stage for the debate, as it were; the drawings don't take sides. Albert Rodriguez's *bangkang papel* illustration the Sunday after the President's first Sona is a good example. Sometimes, however, as with Steph Bravo's composite drawing last Sunday, gathering the landmarks of Metro Manila together and lighting a terrorist's wick over it, the illustrations push an argument.

It is hard to classify today's simple yet striking image, by Ernie Sambo. The iconic framework is Christian, of course, so it is possible to say it makes an argument for a Christian interpretation of the tragic events of Sept. 11. It is the perfect visual equivalent for all three articles.

Fr. Santos ends his meditation on the existence of evil and the power of God with a passage (unfortunately unused, for lack of space) from the memoirs of Elie Wiesel, who realized that the misery in the concentration camp he was witness to was God's own suffering. Mr. Torres rediscovers what it means to live in time, understood for what Christians say it is: the year of the Lord. And Ms Keithley finds sense in "911" only when she recovers a memory of a Marian consecration that succeeds in spite of all odds.

But Sambo's illustration does not belabor its value as a Christian icon. Its strength lies not only in its simplicity, but also in its subtlety. Just as the non-Christian world uses the Christian calendar without giving much thought to it, certain icons of Christian origin have also been appropriated as elements in non-Christian art. In this sense, nailing a man to a piece of wood is a symbol of suffering that transcends all boundaries, all faiths.– *J. Nery*

The WORLD

LUVERNE B. GUECO, EDITOR

IAEA: Terrorists may try 'dirty bomb' attack

VIENNA—Terrorists may try to contaminate whole cities by making a "dirty bomb" out of a combination of radioactive materials and conventional weapons, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said on Friday.

"It is entirely imaginable," said David Kyd, the spokesperson of the International Atomic Energy Agency. He spoke after the organization adopted a resolution at its annual general assembly underlining the necessity of extra steps to protect nuclear plants.

The Vienna-based agency, which the United States sees as a bedrock of nuclear safety, adopted the resolution as Washington counted the cost of last week's terrorist attacks on New York and Washington which cost thousands of lives.

The warning came as the president of the conference vowed the organization would help the fight against terrorism.

Speaking at the end of the five-day meeting, Tom Gronberg said "the urgent need of working together to bring to justice the perpetrators, organizers, and sponsors of these terrorist attacks and to hold accountable those responsible for aiding, supporting, or harboring the perpetrators, organizers was supported."

Kyd stressed that a so-called "dirty bomb"—which incorporates radioactive material in a conventional explosive—so far never been used by terrorists "or even by Saddam Hussein."

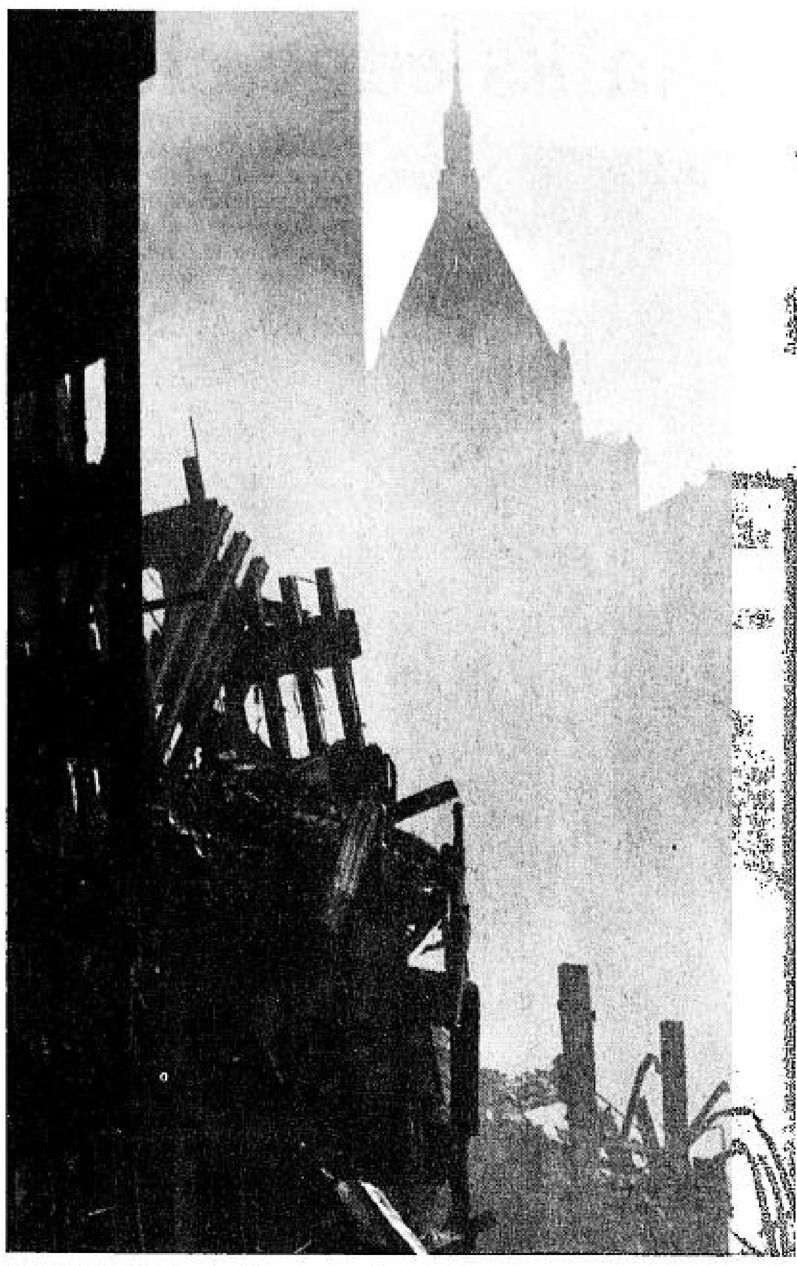
The IAEA pointed to the importance of "physical protection in preventing the unauthorized removal of nuclear material and the sabotage of nuclear facilities and nuclear materials by individuals or groups."

Kyd said that if such a bomb were used the town affected would be uninhabitable.

"The bomb would contaminate with radioactivity the area in which it detonates. It could affect the ability of a population to live in the area until it is decontaminated."

Washington, which pooh-poohs many UN agencies, sees the IAEA as essential to its national security interests and had dispatched its Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham to the meeting.

The United States had sought adoption of a hard-hitting declaration against the terrorists suspected of carrying out last week's attacks, but realizing that this would not receive the support of the 132 member organization, which include many Arab states, agreed that its demands be watered down into a more general resolution on the necessity of protecting nuclear installations. *AFP*



THE WORLD Trade Center attack site in New York still smolders with the Woolworth building seen in the background Sept. 21. The toll from the Sept. 11 attacks on the center and the Pentagon near Washington, together with the crash of a fourth hijacked plane in Pennsylvania, now exceeds 6,800 dead or missing. REUTERS

NY rescuers refuse to give up on day ten

NEW YORK—Rescuers Friday ploughed on with the grim task of searching through the wreckage of the World Trade Center, refusing to give up hope of finding survivors ten days after the twin towers crashed to the ground.

The determination can be seen on their faces, and the teams keep digging even though no one has been pulled out alive since the day after the tragedy. So far 252 bodies have been recovered and 6,333 people remain missing.

"We've made tremendous progress but it doesn't help," said Lieutenant Steven Brown, a New York firefighter. "We still find no one.

"I've been told that people have survived as long as 14 days," he said. "Everything is possible, that's why we keep on doing it and searching. There's always hope."

After a day of searching, his forearms, his uniform and his two walkie-talkies had disappeared under a film of gray dust.

The periphery of the building site has been searched and it is only with the help of heavy equipment that rescue workers move toward the center of the six-hectare mass grave.

"We're doing void searches. The cranes lift up the debris, we get in and search," said Brown, whose company has 96 members missing and presumed dead. "There are units like mine from everywhere: Dallas, LA. We're all doing the exact same thing, searching the voids."

How long could someone survive under there? That's the subject of conversation of firefighters and rescue workers before they enter the site, or as they rest near the wreckage.

"A dog guy told me that the world record was 21 days," one New York rescuer told a colleague from Chicago.

Experts from around the world joined in a conference call to help officials decide whether or not to call off the search for survivors.

The conclusion?

"There are instances where in conditions like this survivors have been found and that's what's motivating the folks," said Ted Monett, coordinator for the Federal Emergency Management Agency. *AFP*

Insurers say attacks cost them $30-$40B

WASHINGTON—The terrorist disaster will cost the insurance industry an estimated $30-40 billion, American International Group chief executive Maurice Greenberg said here Friday.

"A number of figures have been batted around but in the area of $30 to 40 billion seems to be the number that most focus on," he told reporters after a meeting between US insurance executives and US President George W. Bush at the White House.

Greenberg said the industry was well-capitalized "and will meet its claims and obligations," arising out of the disaster.

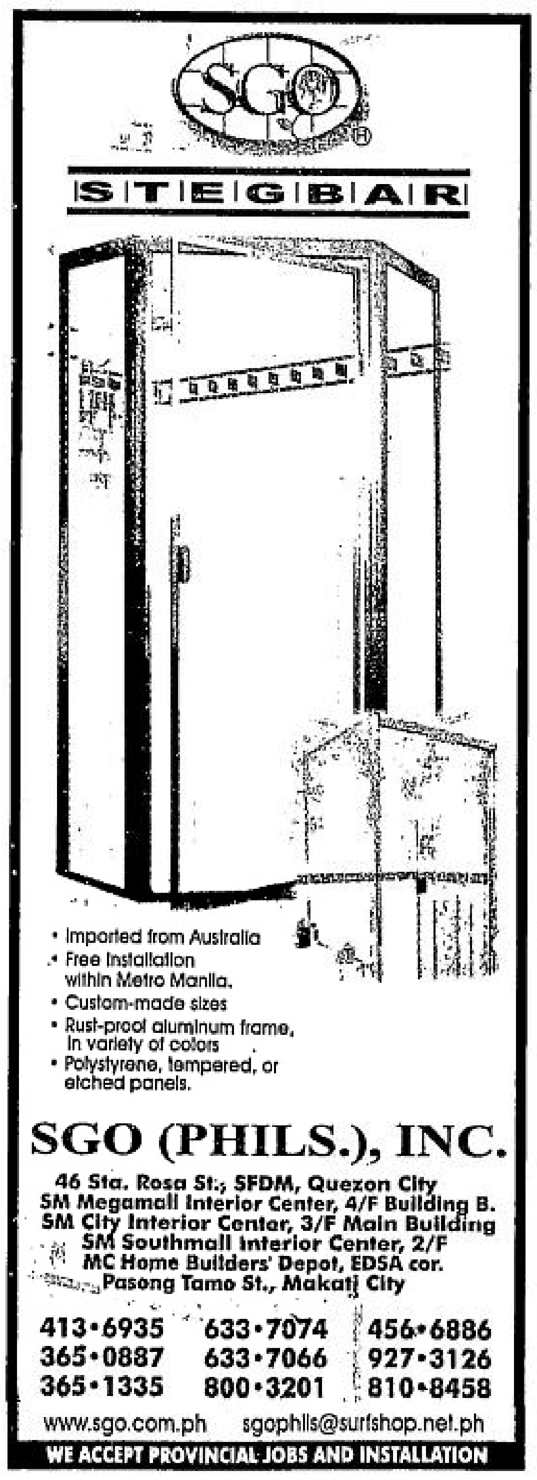
But he called for the United States to take up special measures to protect the US industry in case of further attacks.

The US industry should follow the example of Britain's Pool Re, a government-backed reinsurance scheme which meets the cost of claims over $146,000 due to terrorist attacks.

"There is no question that in future strikes, the insurance industry needs to have a government facility very much like the British have done," Greenberg said.

"Clearly the insurance industry here will need such a facility in the future," he added.

"The president is very supportive of that, he recognizes that, and the insurance industry will work with the administration and Congress to make it happen." *AFP*



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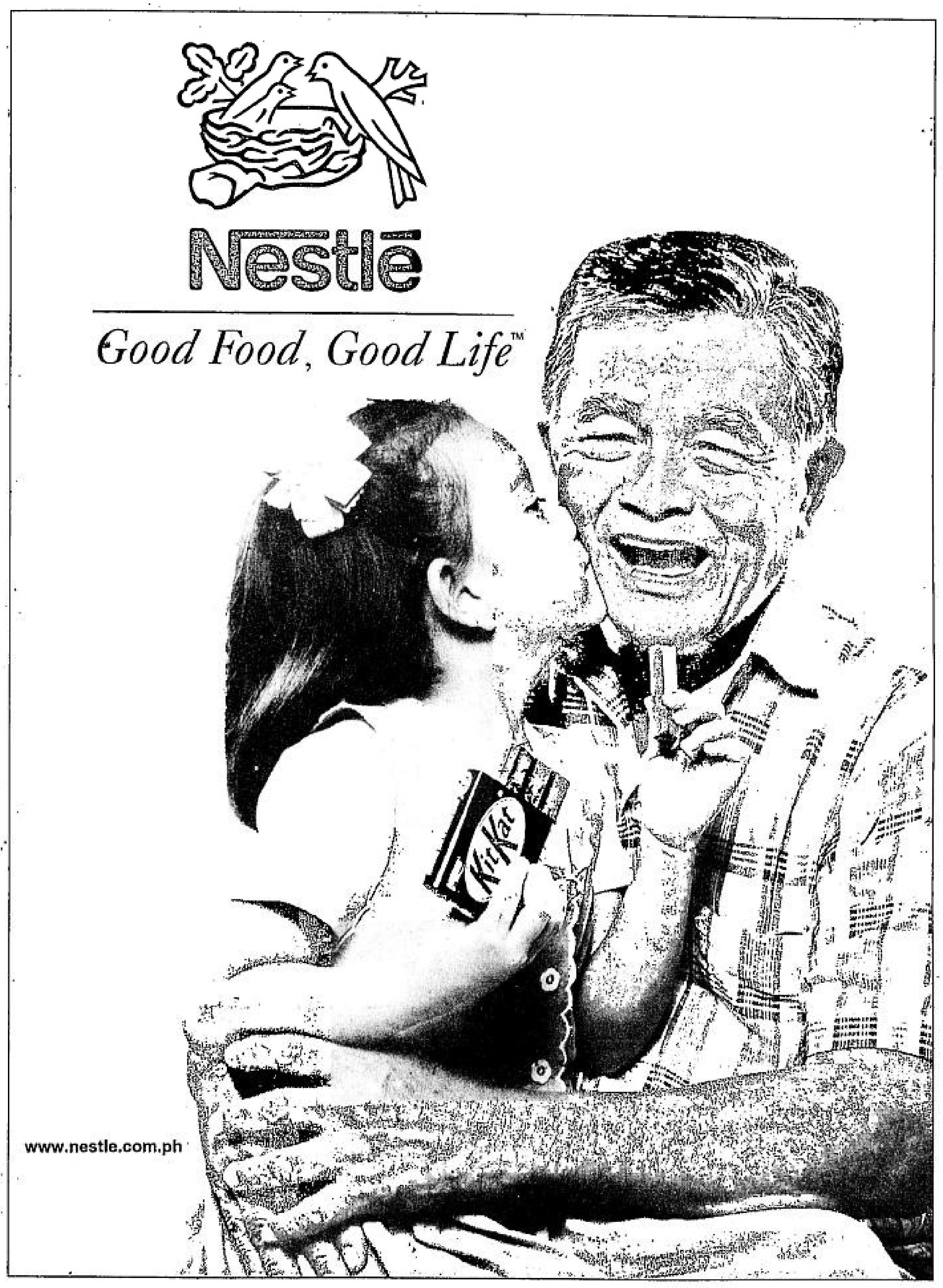

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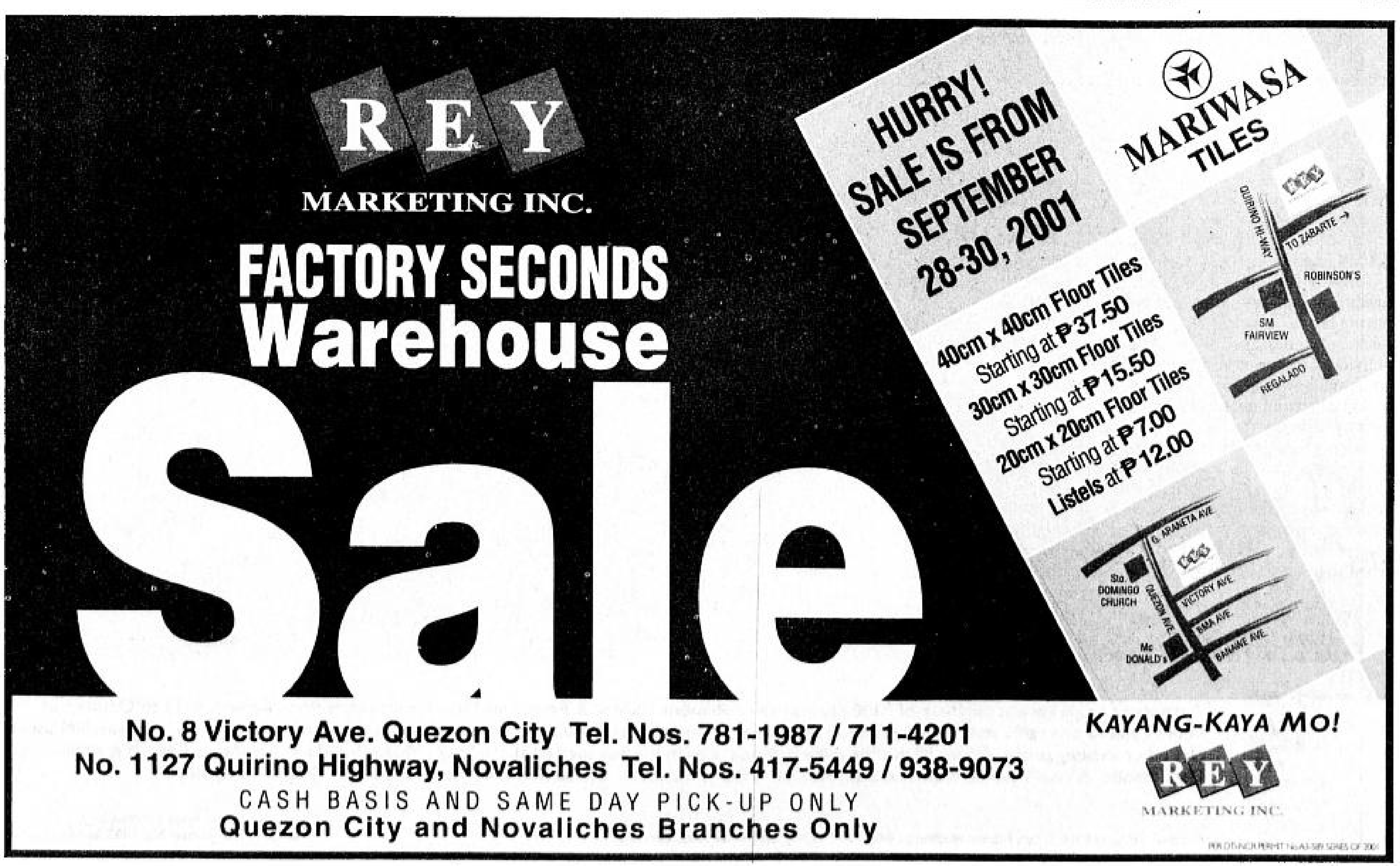

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US moving toward lifting of sanctions on India, Pakistan

WASHINGTON—President George W. Bush's administration is moving quickly toward lifting nuclear sanctions on India and Pakistan, a process lent added momentum in the diplomatic fallout of terror attacks on US soil, officials and congressional sources said Friday.

State Department number three Marc Grossman has been giving classified briefings to members of both the Senate and the House of Representatives to gauge the depth of support for the move, the sources said.

Then President Bill Clinton slapped sanctions on bitter rivals India and Pakistan when they shocked the world by conducting nuclear weapons tests in 1998, raising the alarming prospect of a South Asian nuclear arms race.

The Bush administration has made no secret of the fact that it believes the measures have outlived their usefulness and should be struck from the statute books.

And in recent days it has appeared keen to offer Pakistan help to battle political instability after piling pressure on Islamabad to force Afghanistan's Taliban to hand over Osama bin Laden—Washington's top suspect in the assaults on New York and the Pentagon which killed more than 6,000 people.

That desire was highlighted earlier Friday, when a senior Western diplomat in Islamabad said that the sanctions would soon be removed.

The diplomat said Washington would also reschedule $600 million in debt with Pakistan through the Paris Club of international creditors next week, to help Islamabad through the instability created by possible US strikes against Afghanistan.

"Everything that has been asked of the United States has fitted in with Pakistan's program of economic reform," said the diplomat, requesting anonymity.

Both India and Pakistan have been pushing hard for the lifting of the sanctions, which mainly restrict the provision of US credits, military sales, economic assistance, and loans to both India and Pakistan after the nuclear tests.

Grossman, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, gave a closed door briefing to members of the House or Representatives International Relations committee this week, a congressional source said.

A similar briefing with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee took place Friday.

Sources say that the administration wants to wipe the sanctions totally off the statute books with a presidential waiver, but there is sufficient sentiment in Congress for a fallback position which would see sanctions lifted—but immediately reapplied in the event of further nuclear tests.

A senior State Department official noted that the process of evaluating the sanctions, had been underway since a South Asia policy review was launched at the start of the Bush administration in January.

AFP

Huge blast at French factory leaves 22 dead

TOULOUSE, France—Rescuers picked through piles of gnarled concrete and twisted steel early Saturday, searching for survivors—and bodies—after a huge explosion at a chemical fertilizer plant in southern France killed at least 22 people and injured 650 others.

Fifteen people were still missing, presumably buried amid tons of rubble that was once the AZF chemical plant in Toulouse. The site was leveled by an explosion on Friday morning that had the strength of a 3.2 magnitude earthquake.

The force of the blast ripped walls and roofs off nearby homes, blew cars off the road and left a brown, acrid haze hanging over this southwestern French city that is home to nearly a million people and the country's aeronautics industry.

Much of the plant was in ruins; in some areas, only jagged metal beams covered with dust were left standing. The blast scattered debris over a wide area and carved a 50-meter-wide crater into the ground.

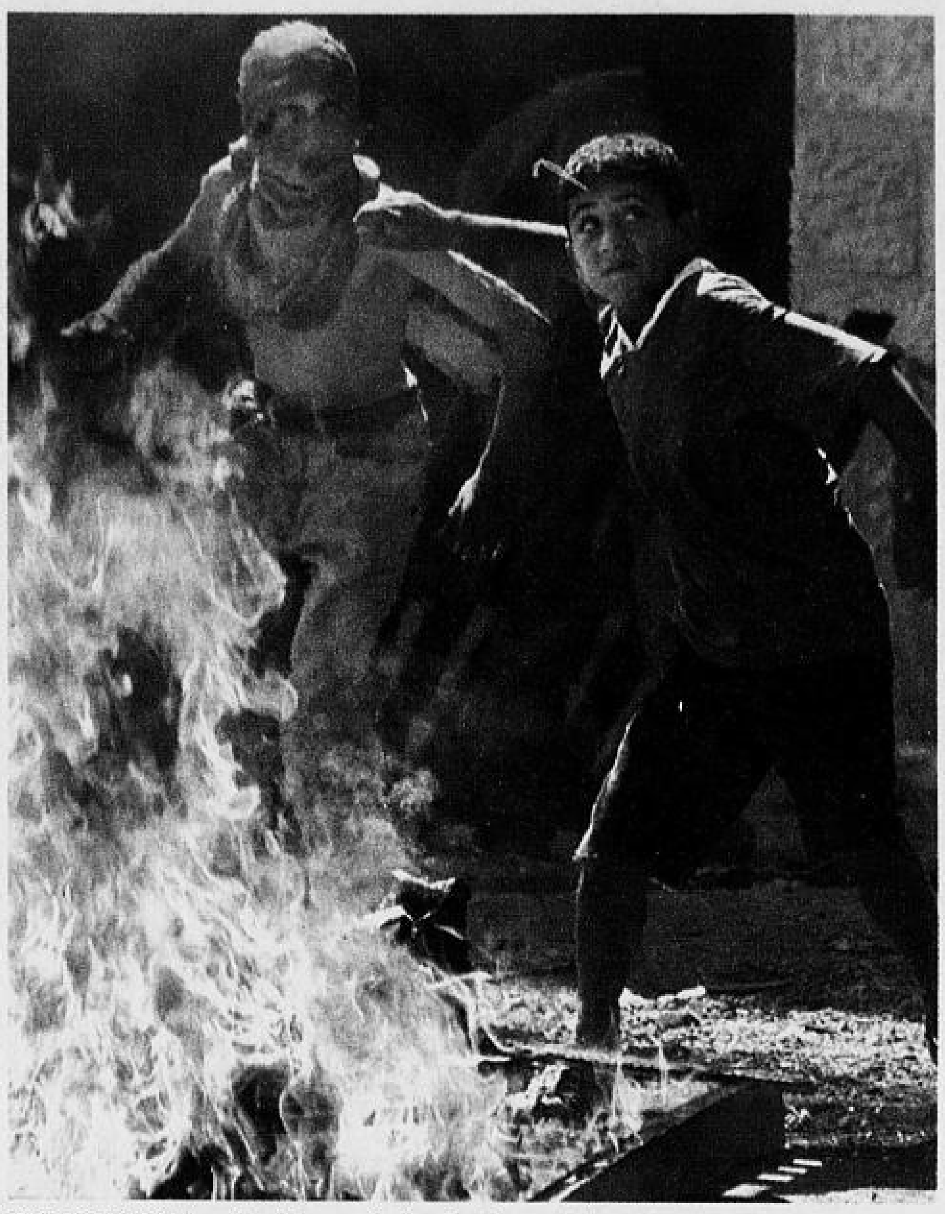
"It's as if there were several explosions and then a very big tornado," said Fire Chief Christian Pizzocaro, head of the onsite rescue team. "The site is extremely dangerous." The company said the blast was an accident, and French radio reported that workers had made an error in mixing chemicals.

But coming just 10 days after a catastrophic terrorist attack against the United States, many in Toulouse who heard the explosion first thought they were under attack.

"We all thought it was a bomb," said Guy Physsens, a truck driver who was delivering supplies to the factory when the blast went off. "I dropped flat on my stomach, and when I got up, I saw people who were bleeding all over."

AP

Mideast peace talks edge closer



PALESTINIAN boys hurl stones during clashes with Israeli soldiers at Rachel's Tomb in Bethlehem Sept. 21. Israel's security Cabinet, meeting in response to the killing of a Jewish settler, left in place a fragile ceasefire with the Palestinians that could aid US efforts to forge a global anti-terror alliance. REUTERS

JERUSALEM—A long-awaited meeting between Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres to consolidate a truce edged closer on Friday, as more than 20 Palestinians were shot and wounded.

Arafat said his talks with Peres have been set for Sunday, without giving a venue.

"An appointment has been made for a meeting on Sunday and we will see if it takes place," he said at a joint press conference with Turkish Foreign Minister Ismail Cem in the West Bank town of Ramallah.

He said the meeting with Peres was due to take place on Friday but were later put off. "Another appointment was made for tomorrow evening and it was also called off," said a cautious Arafat.

Israel's hardline right-wing Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, meanwhile, called Arafat a "terrorist" but said he still held out hope that talks next week could bolster a shaky three-day-old ceasefire.

Sharon ruled out immediate talks with Arafat, warning on CNN that he would not "compromise with terror," as the would-be truce has failed to stem the slayings and shootings on the ground.

Top Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erakat shot back: "We don't need to remind anyone that President Arafat is a Nobel (peace) prize laureate while courts in Europe are busy collecting evidence and finishing an arrangement to indict Sharon as a war criminal."

Sharon has demanded a 48-hour period of absolute calm before the Arafat-Peres meeting takes place.

Arafat and Israel reached agreement on a ceasefire Tuesday under pressure from the United States, which sees the Middle East conflict as an obstacle to drawing Arab countries into an anti-terrorism coalition in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terror attacks on US soil.

AFP

DIA woman charged with spying for Cuba

WASHINGTON—A veteran analyst at the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), the main US military intelligence organization, was arrested Friday on charges of passing military secrets to Cuba, the FBI said.

Ana Belen Montes, 44, is charged with conspiracy to hand national defense secrets to the communist regime of President Fidel Castro, the FBI said in a statement.

At a first court appearance following her arrest, Montes declined to enter a plea to the charges and was ordered detained without bond.

She is scheduled to appear in federal court here on Wednesday for a preliminary hearing and a detention hearing.

The US Defense Department declined to comment on the case but spokesman Bryan Whitman confirmed that Montes, a resident of Washington who worked at Bolling Air Force base in the capital, was a veteran with the intelligence agency.

"Ana Montes has been employed as an analyst with the DIA since 1985," he said.

The FBI statement said agents had arrested Montes at her office on Friday. They had also obtained search warrants for her home, her car, her office, and a safe deposit box at a bank in the city.

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Kuwait emir suffers stroke

JABER AL-AHMAD AL-SABAH

LONDON—The ruler of key US Gulf Arab ally Kuwait arrived in Britain on Friday for treatment for a mild stroke.

Kuwaiti sources in London said the condition of Emir Sheikh Jaber al-Ahmad al-Sabah, 75, was "not serious" and he was not expected to undergo surgery in Britain.

The ruler of the oil-rich state arrived at London's Heathrow on a private jet. He left the plane on a stretcher and was taken by ambulance to an exclusive private hospital in the capital.

"He suffered a mild stroke. It is not serious or we would have not sent him all this way," a Kuwaiti source said.

US President George W. Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair telephoned Kuwaiti Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad al-Abdulla al-Sabah to offer their countries' full and medical capabilities to the emir.

Official announcements of the emir's condition were read on Kuwaiti state radio and television. Diplomats said the sudden illness was not expected to have any direct or immediate impact on Kuwait's foreign policy and close ties with the West.

The emir's half brother, long-time influential Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah is also due in London to see Sheikh Jaber, official sources said.

He was in the United States for talks with Bush and senior officials on the role Kuwait could play in a global alliance against "terrorism."

Kuwait has strongly condemned the Sept. 11 attacks on New York and Washington and pledged full support for the United States which led the 1991 Gulf War coalition that ended a seven-month Iraqi occupation of the small country.

Kuwait, which gained independence from Britain in 1961, hosts US troops, warplanes and heavy military hardware. *Reuters*

Greece moves to stem influx of illegals

ATHENS—Faced with a growing tide of illegal immigrants from the Middle East, Greece is putting pressure on Turkey to help in the effort to curb the influx.

Greece nabbed close on 1,200 migrants in September alone and fears there will be many more should the United States launch reprisals against Afghanistan for the Sept. 11 terrorist blitz in New York and Washington.

Overnight Thursday, Greek coastguards picked up 197 refugees of various nationalities, who were in difficulties aboard a fishing boat in the Aegean sea in a repeat of an operation the previous night in the Ionian sea, when 291 people were intercepted.

If only group arrivals are taken into account, 1,180 immigrants, most of them Iraqi Kurds and Afghans, but including some Pakistanis and Africans, have been arrested in Greece since the beginning of September, according to the Merchant Marine ministry.

Most arrived from the Turkish coast in overloaded fishing boats and decrepit cargo ships, with the Afghans in particular specializing in blowup children's beach mattresses.

Most have had to pay $1,000 a head to the Turkish smuggling networks, which send them to Greece.

The pressure is expected to increase, and Greek Foreign Minister George Papandreou warned a cabinet meeting recently that one million people were massed on the Iran-Turkey border.

Government spokesperson Dimitris Reppas said Thursday that the country faced "a major problem" because of insecurity and uncertainty in the countries of emigration and the possibility that migrants might be infiltrated by terrorists. *AFP*

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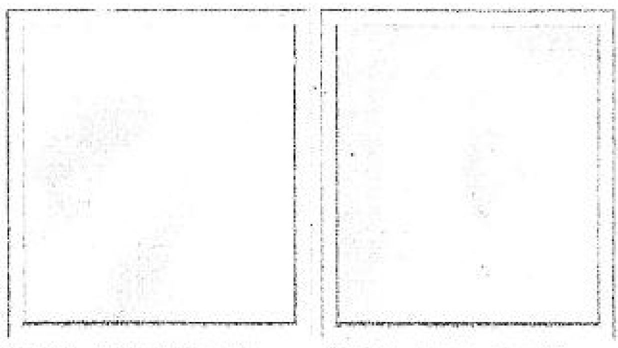

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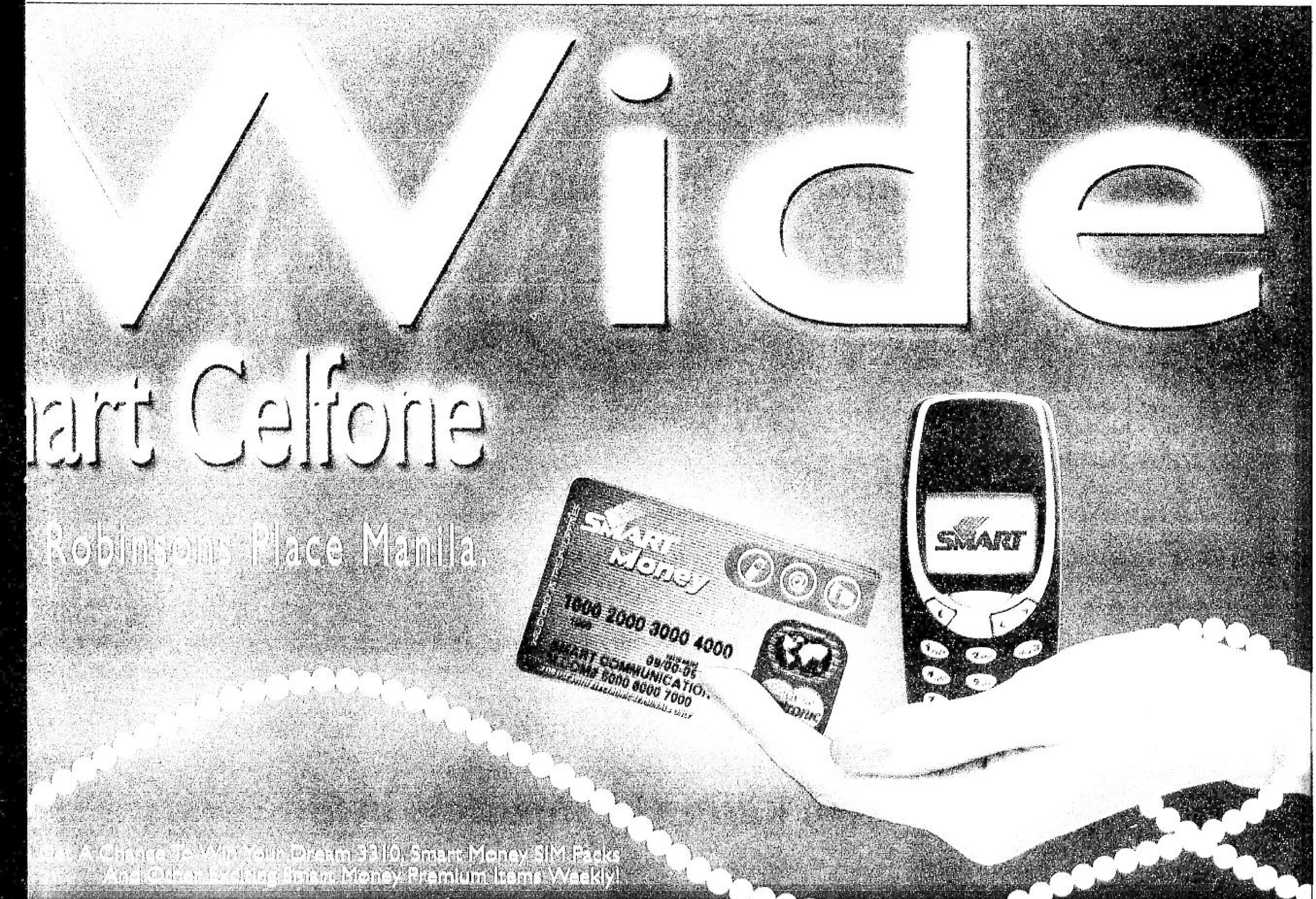

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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Northern Luzon will experience rains and gusty winds and the coastal waters will be moderate to rough. The rest of Luzon and Western Visayas will be cloudy with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms while the rest of the country will experience partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms

SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Cloudy with rains	Hi 31° Lo 24°
Baguio	Rains	Hi 24° Lo 16°
Tuguegarao	Rains	Hi 31° Lo 22°
Laoag	Rains	Hi 29° Lo 23°
Clark Zone	Cloudy with rains	Hi 30° Lo 22°
Tagaytay	Cloudy with rains	Hi 29° Lo 22°
Legazpi	Partly cloudy with rains	Hi 32° Lo 25°
Calapan	Partly cloudy with rains	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Bacolod	Partly cloudy with rains	Hi 32° Lo 25°
Roxas	Partly cloudy with rains	Hi 32° Lo 25°
Cebu	Partly cloudy to cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Tacloban	Partly cloudy with rains	Hi 32° Lo 25°
Gen. Santos	Partly cloudy with rains	Hi 32° Lo 23°
Zamboanga	Partly cloudy with rains	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Cagayan de Oro	Partly cloudy with rains	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Davao	Partly cloudy to cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 25°

Compiled by: Armin P. Adina, PDI Research/09/22/01

ROUNDUP

Ramos to keynote meet

BAGUIO CITY—Former President Fidel Ramos will keynote the 10th North Luzon Area Business Conference hosted by the Baguio Benguet Chamber of Commerce and Industry on Sept. 28 at the Baguio Country Club. Some 150 businessmen and entrepreneurs are expected to attend the conference with the theme "Developing New Perspectives for Today's World Economy." Carlos Honorio Estepa Jr., Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry governor for the Cordillera, said crafts exhibits would offer businessmen and financiers ideas for investment. *Nathan Alcantara, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Smuggling curb vowed

MARIVELES, Bataan—The newly installed port collector of the subport here vowed to stamp out all forms of smuggling, especially that of rice. Lawyer Renato de Jesus replaced Nick Gamboa, who was relieved following the alleged smuggling of tons of rice from Thailand and Vietnam. De Jesus cited the need to field more customs law enforcers in the sub-port. He said he would introduce reforms to improve revenue collections.
Greg Refraccion, PDI Central Luzon Desk

Gold panners appeal

BAGUIO CITY—More than 1,000 gold panners of Barangay San Felipe East in San Nicolas, Pangasinan, have petitioned the National Power Corp. and the San Roque Power Corp. to allow them to continue their gold panning activity along the Agno River. They said Napocor and SRPC had no legal basis to prevent them from gold panning along the river.
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Board probes overpricing

VIGAN CITY—The provincial board is looking into the reported overpricing of life vests bought by the provincial government. Reports said 500 life vests worth P1.4 million had been bought, but Gov. Deogracias Victor Savellano clarified that they bought more than 1,000 life vests intended for calamity victims. Board Member Edgardo Zaragoza on Tuesday said the board should investigate the controversy to ascertain if the life vests were overpriced. *Leoncio Balbin Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

'Jueteng' eradication

CALAPAN CITY—Supt. Alejandro Gutierrez, newly installed provincial police chief, has vowed to "reduce to zero" the operation of *jueteng* in the province. Gutierrez replaced Supt. Romeo T. Ricardo, who ordered a crackdown on *jueteng* a week ago after reports indicated that the illegal numbers game had resumed in the province. Before Ricardo was replaced, at least 20 *jueteng* collectors and *mayores* were arrested in Pinamalayan town.
Joel J. Jabal, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Woman, 2 kids killed

SOCORRO, Oriental Mindoro—A mother and her two children died after her drunken live-in partner attacked her and her four children with a fan knife before committing suicide in Barangay Subaan here on Saturday. Socorro police chief Andrew Aguirre said Jeffrey L. Arriola, 35, a welder, attacked his common-law wife, Delia Lasac, 42, and her children, Bernard, 9; Ofring, 11; Jedelyn, 5 and Ian, while they were sleeping inside their house. Aguirre said Delia and Bernard died on the spot. Jeffrey shot himself with a homemade shotgun and died.
Joel J. Jabal, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Muslim communities watched

CALAPAN CITY—Chief Supt. Domingo Reyes, Southern Tagalog police director, said he has placed under surveillance Muslim communities in the region as a precautionary measure against terrorism. "We don't only conduct dialogues with them. Their communities are also being watched," said Reyes, who came to Oriental Mindoro to install the new provincial police chief. Muslim communities are found in almost all of the 11 provinces of the region, Reyes said as he revealed an "action plan" to counter any terrorist attack. *Joel J. Jabal, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

ISP for Camarines Sur

NAGA CITY—Camarines Sur will be the first local government unit to become an Internet service provider as it aims to hook subscribers onto the information highway. Gov. Luis Villafuerte said the provincial government had already installed the hardware and satellite transceivers at the Information Technology Center Building at the Capitol Complex in Pili town. He said the ISP would be managed by skilled technicians of the newly established Information Technology Center.
Juan Escandor Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Gloria visit lifts hope among Bugkalot folk

BY BEN MOSES EBREO
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

DUPAX DEL SUR, Nueva Vizcaya—When then First Lady Eva Macapagal visited an Ilongot community in Baran gay Bayanihan in Aurora (then a sub-province of Quezon) in 1965, most of the indigenous children and elders hoped that one day, their tribe would be recognized in the mainstream of society.

Thirty-six years later, the dream has been fulfilled after Macapagal's daughter, President Macapagal–Arroyo, paid tribute to the tribe's contribution to the government in a visit here Thursday during the first Bugkalot cultural festival.

"It is a great honor for us to be visited and met by our country's highest political leader. This is a sign that we are worthy to live and be helped by our government," Sacdal Caanawan, 58, a Bugkalot pastor, said in Filipino.

"The visit of our beloved President shows her interest to help us gradually in living like our brothers in the civilization," said Walalang Ebenga, 61.

The President gave out checks amounting to P42.2 million for various infrastructure and social projects for 15 towns in Nueva Vizcaya and education among Bugkalot students and P35,000 worth of medicines for the Bugkalot villages.

Posthumous award

Ms Macapagal gave a posthumous award to Salvador Molina, considered the father of the Bugkalots, formerly known as Ilongots, for his efforts in pacifying tribe members from their headhunting and uniting them for development.

She also gave an award to David Sokol, chair and chief executive officer of Cal Energy International, contractor of the Casecnan multipurpose irrigation and power project.

The President's planned hour-long visit was cut to only 15 minutes because of her hectic schedule, according to local officials here.

Earlier, local government officials and regional development executives in Cagayan Valley endorsed the Bugkalots as a "Millennium Tribe" for their contribution and support to various government projects and initiatives.

The Bugkalots were once feared as a fierce headhunting tribe in the mountains of Nueva Vizcaya, Aurora, Quirino and Nueva Ecija.

Local officials also cited the Bugkalots for their continuing repulsive stance against the influence of communist rebels in their ancestral lands.

Gov. Rodolfo Agbayani, chair of the Bugkalot festival executive committee, said the tribe also supported the P10.5-billion Casecnan project in Nueva Vizcaya.

"Most importantly, we see them as responsible partners for development in their communities and for their role in sustaining the life of the irrigation project," Agbayani said.

The project seeks to generate additional electric power and to augment irrigation needs of farmers in Central Luzon by diverting water from the mountains in Nueva Vizcaya through a 26-kilometer tunnel.

LOST VALUABLES CHARLIE SACEDA
Ismael Hamja, 38, tries to recover some of his valuable possessions, including a page from his book collection, after his house was burned by Abu Sayyaf bandits in Matanne, Bohe Guiong, Tumahubong, Basilan.

Kidnappers free GenSan trader

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—A wealthy businessman from here was released by his kidnappers in Digos City on Saturday morning, four days after he was snatched in Barangay Ladol, Alabel, Sarangani late Tuesday afternoon.

Clemente Uson, a prawn farm operator and owner of fast-food center Pizza Italiana here, was met at a bus terminal in Digos by a team of police intelligence agents led by Senior Supt. Abelardo Villacorta, intelligence chief of the Central Mindanao police command.

Villacorta said he had received a report that the victim would be brought to Digos for transport to North Cotabato.

Uson was alone when they saw him at the bus terminal, he said.

"But we knew there were two members of the bandit group who accompanied Mr. Uson in going to the terminal. Probably, they escaped after seeing us there," Villacorta said.

Mayor Pedro Acharon Jr. presented the victim to journalists during a brief press conference held at Camp Fermin G. Lira here at noon yesterday.

Uson was immediately brought to a hospital for medical checkup, as the mayor claimed the victim's blood pressure shot up because of the incident.

Uson told reporters during a brief interview that he was treated well by his captors.

Except for fatigue, he appeared in good physical condition.

The victim was met by his wife and close friends at the camp.

Villacorta said the kidnappers moved their victim from one place to another to mislead rescuers. But he said the rescue team was able to monitor their movement through information fed by an insider.

Police said they were not aware if the Uson family paid ransom money. They also could not say which group was responsible for the kidnapping.

"We are not sure yet about the identity of the group. But we have in our custody two persons who might be in one way or another involved in the kidnapping," Villacorta said.

He refused to divulge the names of the two suspects.

In Zamboanga City, British national Percival Arthur Showers, who escaped from his abductors last week, said he was still determined to go back and assume his responsibilities at the Mindanao State University in Sanga-sanga, Tawi-Tawi despite what happened to him.

Showers, an oceanographer and marine science professor, said he would take a few months of rest in Manila but "will go back there (Tawi-Tawi)."

"I don't think of severing my services with the university," he added. He has been teaching at the Mindanao State University since 1998.

He said his services in the university were very much needed.

"Because we have many reset programs and we are picking up, and the university itself is extending masteral programs on aquaculture and I'm very much involved in this," he said.

Showers escaped from his abductors by jumping off the getaway vehicle and hiding under cover of darkness. *Aquiles Z. Zonio and Julie Alipala-Inot, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Thousands join Tayabas Bay cleanup

BY DELFIN T. MALLARI JR.
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

LUCENA CITY—Thousands of students, businessmen, government officials and employees and non-government group members yesterday trooped to the long coastline of Tayabas Bay here to join the 15th International Coastal Cleanup Day.

The volunteers especially cleaned up the portions along the villages of Dalahican and Talao-Talao.

"We have much bigger participants from different sectors this time compared to the previous years when we had mostly student volunteers," Lucena City vice mayor Rhoderick Alcala, one of the initiators of the annual undertaking, told the INQUIRER.

Alcala said one of the satisfying highlights of this year's coastal cleanup day along the city's several coastal barangays was the active involvement of the business sector headed by members of the Quezon Business for the Environment Conference.

Juliet Borlon, faculty member of the Sacred Heart College and head of the Young Environmentalist Society, however, lamented that despite the annual cleanup, "most of the coastal villagers continue to ignore the yearly effort of the volunteers."

"Their immediate surroundings were still the same, full of every imaginable garbage and human waste which added to the accumulated man-made coastal dirt left by picnickers. It is exactly the same as the previous years," she said.

City councilor Buena Lequin, committee on environment and natural resources chair, said this unsanitary practice of the residents should be changed.

"It seems that it is deeply embedded in their daily routine. That should be another focus of concern if we want to have a totally clean coastline," she said.

To address the villager's apathy, Alcala said they would start an inter-purok cleanliness competition.

He said they would tap businessmen to give the incentives for the cleanest purok.

"It could be a monthly or quarterly contest. The prizes could be in the form of water wells for the purok or construction materials for a public toilet. The villagers can build it *bayanihan*-style," he said.

Borlon said monitoring would be held monthly to assess the progress of the campaign.

Lawyer Asis Perez, head of Tanggol Kalikasan Inc., a legal defense center for the environment operating in Southern Tagalog, said the annual coastal cleanup day is already one way of informing and educating villagers.

"But it seems that this is not enough to get the commitment of the people in the area. We have to strive harder and add a little 'gimmick' to the overall campaign to inculcate into their minds the benefits of a clean surrounding," he said.

Several trucks lent by different volunteer groups were seen hauling the collected garbage.

Businessman Proceso Alcala, head of the Public Private Partnership for the Conservation of Tayabas Bay, said they would also initiate "scubasura" this week.

"It is also a yearly underwater cleanup activity participated in by scuba enthusiasts," the businessman said.

"Instead of staging a dive at a ritzy underwater haven in Batangas, we collect underwater garbage in the fish sanctuary being kept and maintained by the partnership. It's fun diving there. There are now plenty of fish to play with," he said.

VOLUNTEERS haul garbage during the clean-up campaign along the coastline of Tayabas Bay. DELFIN T. MALLARI JR.

Martial law memories still 'painful'

ILOILO CITY—About 700 persons, including martial law victims, held a rally here on Friday to mark the 29th anniversary of the declaration of martial rule.

Former political prisoners marched together with students and members of urban poor communities to condemn what they said was the continuing rottenness of the military establishment that implemented martial rule during the Marcos dictatorship.

"Marcos' vile henchmen like Panfilo Lacson are still in the highest positions of power," said Fortunato Pelaez, 53, who said he was tortured during his detention from 1974 to 1975 at Stockade 4 of Camp Crame.

"To this day, I vividly remember how we were stripped naked, beaten and how they electrocuted my testicles," he said.

Jaro Archbishop Angel Lagdameo said martial law was like a nightmare that attacked the people.

"We must persevere in the road to justice in the graft and corruption cases against our former President (Joseph Estrada) and one popular senator (Lacson)," the prelate said in a statement in Hiligaynon.

"The memories are painful. I cried a lot while being held in various military detention cells in Camps Bonifacio, Crame, Aguinaldo, military camps in Cebu, Bacolod and Iloilo," said former Sen. Rodolfo Ganzon, 79.

Ganzon claimed to be the longest-held member of the opposition after he was sentenced by a military tribunal to double life imprisonment for rebellion.

He spent 14 years in jail. Ganzon was released in 1986 and won a seat as mayor of Iloilo City the following year.

In Negros Occidental, about 2,000 members of militant groups held a rally at the public plaza in Escalante town to mark the 16th anniversary of the massacre that left 21 people killed and several others injured.

Bernardito Patigas, chair of the North Negros Alliance of Human Rights Advocates, said that despite the people's victory against Marcos, justice remained elusive to the families of the victims of the Escalante Massacre.

Patigas said only the soldiers were punished while those who gave the orders were still scot-free. *Nestor P. Burgos, Ma. Diosa Labiste and Carla P. Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau*

Suspects in killing of Japanese held

BY KATHY I. NAVARRO
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—Police on Friday arrested the alleged mastermind and suspects in the killing of a Japanese businessman and the wounding of another here.

Arrested was Norbert Antiquando, the Filipino partner of the slain Japanese, Inasayoki Kuwabara, who allegedly admitted having ordered the assassination to get even with the victim.

Also arrested were Alan Inot, 28, the suspected gunman; Rex Oyao, 29, alleged driver of the motorcycle carrying Inot; and Claudio Bontilao, 34, a neighbor of Antiquando who allegedly introduced Oyao and Inot to Antiquando.

Supt. Edwin Diocos, chief of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group in Central Visayas, said charges of murder and frustrated murder would be filed against the suspects.

Kuwabara, 79, was killed while Yoshiaki Miwa was seriously wounded in an ambush staged by two men riding on a motorcycle in Barangay Banilad, this city, on Thursday.

Antiquando was driving his Japanese partners to his factory in Mandaue City during the attack. He earlier claimed he did not see the assailants because he immediately ducked for cover when he heard the first burst of gunfire.

On Friday, Antiquando recanted his statement and claimed that it was he who ordered the killing to get back at the victims for allegedly taking advantage of him in their business transactions.

"They obviously defrauded me. I couldn't concentrate on work because of my anger," he said.

Antiquando said he lost about P500,000 in his transactions with Kuwabara, who owned a construction supply company in Nagoya, Japan. Kuwabara was often in Cebu to import decorative fiberglass from Antiquando's Jeff Multi-Handicraft.

INQUIRER Mindanao
JUN BANDAYREL, Editor ■ NICO A. ALCONABA, Bureau Chief

Danger in the dump

BY MA. KRISTINA CASSION
Butuan City

IN A DARK, cramped space they call a bedroom lies Jacqueline's frail body. Covered by a thin blanket, she struggles to raise herself from the straw mat to welcome the visitors. Suddenly, painful spasms erupt in her lower abdomen. She breaks into tears.

The tears reflect the anguish and helplessness of a person afflicted with fibroid of the uterus, commonly known as myoma. But Jacqueline could not have it operated on for lack of money.

Jacqueline, like her husband, is a "*mangantikay*," a local term for foragers of Butuan City's garbage dump in Purok 3, Barangay Doongan. The couple's nipa hut lies 20 meters from the site. Even before they got married five years ago, they have not had any jobs other than scavenging.

Jacqueline discovered her affliction in November last year. Doctors had earlier advised her to have it operated on in January. But difficult circumstances and their meager income from gathering and selling recyclable waste materials have prevented her from doing so.

To kill the pain, Jacqueline takes only paracetamol tablets like Biogesic, an over-the-counter drug.

Her voice muffled by her cries, Jacqueline pleads to the city government for help. "I can't bear the pain anymore. I want it to stop, but we don't have money for my operation. Please, please, help me, I don't want to die."

Bernardita Curalde, the *purok* (district) president, tries to comfort her. Not knowing what to do, she gives her another pain reliever.

"I was the one who had her hospitalized before. When the doctor said she had to be operated on, I really felt helpless since I also did not have any money. But I did include her name to the list of sick persons from my *purok* that I submitted to the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office," Curalde said.

"The PCSO manager asked me to bring Jacqueline and the others who have more complicated diseases to his office next week," she added.

Jacqueline's name is just one in a long list of sick persons who live in the dump and its peripheral *puroks*. Their diseases range from respiratory problems, hodgkin's, lymphoma, non-toxic goiter and chronic acute hepatitis to brain tumor and breast, cervical and liver cancer.

Gov't (in)action

A medical report from the PCSO in Butuan City disclosed that 90 percent of all diagnosed cancer patients this year, who have asked for medical assistance from the agency, were either scavengers or people living near the dump.

The PCSO was alarmed by the increase in the number of cancer patients coming from Doongan since March, who have wanted to avail themselves of its medical assistance program. In August alone, the PCSO recorded the deaths of three cancer patients in Doongan.

Opposition Councilor Ryan Culima (People Power Coalition) expressed fears of a possible outbreak of cancer in the village, which, he believed, might have been caused by air and water pollution from the dump.

Culima urged the city government headed by Mayor Daisy Plaza to fast-track the transfer of the garbage site to the newly acquired 300-hectare "controlled dump" in Barangay Dumalagan on the city outskirts.

But Councilor Euquerio Dominise, a known ally of Plaza, lambasted Culima for allegedly maligning the mayor's administration by peddling "disinformation" to the public.

When news of the possible cancer outbreak in the dump landed on the front page of The Mindanao Newswatch, a local weekly newspaper, the city council responded by referring the problem to the committees on health and on waste management for full investigation.

The committees held a meeting, inviting PCSO area manager Carlito Kho, city health director Dr. Elsie Caballero, personnel from the city engineer's office and representatives from Doongan.

109 deaths

Caballero disclosed that of the 109 recorded deaths of cancer patients in the city last year, only one from Doongan died of cancer of the uterus.

But Kho said the PCSO was concerned about those who are suffering from the disease and have asked for medical assistance. "Do we have to wait for these people to die so they will be part of that statistic?" he asked.

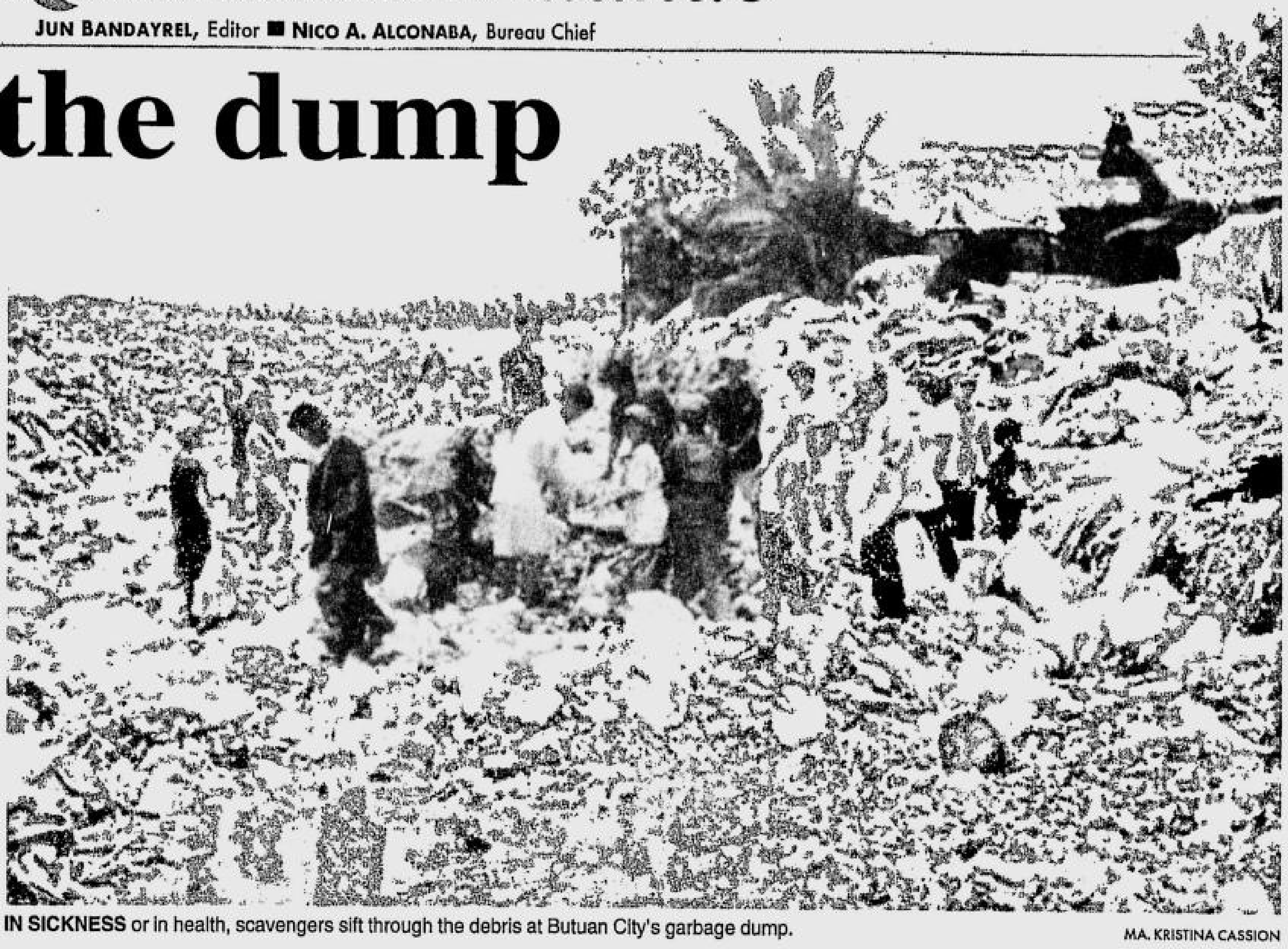
The committee members suggested fumigation in the area but were reminded by the city engineer's office of budget constraints.

They suggested buying sprays to drive away the odor from the garbage site. But Kho said this might lead residents to think that they are breathing unadulterated air around the dump.

Doongan residents reiterated their plea to transfer the dump as promised to them since 1989 by past administrations. The transfer to Dumalagan was promised in January, but until now, it has not been realized.

Assistant city engineer Cayetano Centino explained that the present site was still being utilized because of inadequate funds to support the planned transfer. The councilors, however, promised anew to carry out the plan next year.

Residents are not convinced of the supposed non-availability of funds. The city government spent P20 million for Butuan's 50th Charter Day celebration last year and donated P300,000 for a high school alumni homecoming and P500,000 for a recent oath-taking ceremony.



IN SICKNESS or in health, scavengers sift through the debris at Butuan City's garbage dump. MA. KRISTINA CASSION

Purok 3 in Barangay Doongan has been the city's garbage dump since 1971. Today, large heaps of trash are found on both sides of the access road. When it rains and the mud is deep, garbage trucks just dump their load on the road.

For the scavengers, collecting and segregating recyclable wastes has been their way of life. They could sell the recyclable items, usually consisting of plastic and glass bottles, cellophane materials and scrap iron.

They have not known any jobs other than this. Their parents are "*basureros*" like their grandparents. Scavenging is in their blood.

The scavengers couldn't afford to send their children to school, so they remain so all their life. Every day, they bear the scorching heat of the sun or the drenching rain so that they can have food on the table.

Any move to transfer the dump has been met by the scavengers with apprehension, fearing that they might lose their only means of livelihood. Some may have to transfer to the planned site, while others may choose to remain.

"They want to transfer the dump, but what will happen to us? They did not even mention giving us livelihood assistance if we are separated from our work," complains Ignacio, who has been suffering from asthma in the past three years.

In sickness or in health, these people stubbornly continue with their way of life.

Meanwhile, a commotion ensues. "Jollibee! Jollibee!" the children scream as they race to the truck. The truck loaded with wastes from the Jollibee food chain arrives. The children divide among themselves the leftover food, ketchup streaming down from their mouths to their dirty clothes.

Malmar irrigation: Investment in blood

BY ROSA-MAY V. DE GUZMAN
Carmen, North Cotabato

FOR NORTH Cotabato Gov. Emmanuel Piñol, the Malitubog-Maridagao Irrigation Project (MMIP) had "wasted time, money and effort, even lives" through the years. For MMIP manager Noldin Oyod, the project could have been forgotten.

"But with our untiring initiative, though nearly 13 years in the making, we were never discouraged to complete the long-delayed project," Oyod said.

Yesterday, President Macapagal-Arroyo formally opened the P2.5-billion irrigation project, which is expected to benefit some 3,000 farmers in Pagalungan and Pagagawan towns in Maguindanao and in Carmen and Pikit towns in North Cotabato.

"This project will surely improve people's lives," said Piñol, who also heads the Committee of Monitoring and Construction of the project.

"We'll train the farmers, provide them seed assistance, fertilizers and carabaos, and we'll make them understand what the project is all about," the governor added.

But things were not always as rosy as what Piñol's declarations are now. While being completed, the project was plagued with problems like road right-of-way, payment for damaged crops and bad weather.

Damning the dam

It was like damning the dam.

"Peace and order were really beyond control," Oyod said.

In 1994, construction of the project was put on hold when Moro Islamic Liberation Front rebels held hostage seven engineers and workers of the Seoul-based Shinsung Corp., the original contractor of the project.

The rebels were led by Commander Tamski and his son Kagui Manalos, a local leader, who was later killed in the area. They insisted that the site was part of an ancestral domain and that Maguidanaoans deserve to live there.

Residents, who were either members or supporters of the MILF, also wanted to be employed as security of the project. This was opposed by the military, which insisted that it was a government project and therefore, should be guarded by government soldiers.

A long lull ensued after the Koreans pulled out their equipment. The project was suspended from 1995 to 1998.

The contract with Shinsung was mutually terminated on April 27, 1997.

Suspended

The contract was awarded to the China Electric Power Technology Import and Export Corp. or Cetic. Still, the construction was suspended last year, this time due to the all-out war declared by the Estrada administration against the MILF.

After the war, construction resumed, but Cetic official Zhang Zhungquiang was kidnapped while on his way to the dam site on June 20. His captors had asked for a $4-million ransom.

During a ransom payoff of P8 million, the kidnappers seized four more Chinese and a Chinese-Filipino negotiator.

In an Army rescue operation on Aug. 20, Zhungquiang and another Cetic employee, Xue Xing, were killed. Rescued was Wang Zhungli.

Two more victims remain in the hands of their captors.

After the incident, the President expressed doubts that Cetic would be able to finish the project. "I want this project completed soon," she said in a recent visit in General Santos City.

Cetic said it would finish the project before its contract expires. As promised, Cetic completed Stage 1 of the project.

Stage 2 will irrigate another 9,100 hectares of land.

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CIRCULAR NO. 1-P

TO : ALL OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF MARIWASA MANUFACTURING, INC.

SUBJECT : GRANT OF EMERGENCY LOANS TO DISPLACED EMPLOYEES OF THE MARIWASA MANUFACTURING, INC.

In accordance with Social Security Commission Resolution No. 689 dated 30 August 2001, approving the grant of emergency loans to displaced employees of Mariwasa Manufacturing, Inc. to be drawn from the remaining balance of the emergency loan facility earlier made available to retrenched workers in the sugar industry, National Steel Corporation and Atlantic Gulf & Pacific Company, the following guidelines, based on the same terms and conditions set in previously approved emergency loan programs, are hereby issued:

1. **MECHANICS**

The member shall submit to the nearest SSS branch the following:

- Duly accomplished salary loan application form (SSS Form ISL-101); and
- Certification from the Mariwasa Manufacturing Company that he was laid-off or retrenched and duly validated by the Regional Director, Department of Labor and Employment.

2. **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

2.1 Members who have been separated or retrenched from employment not earlier than **22 August 2001**;
2.2 Members who have availed of the emergency loan program for workers who were adversely affected by the present currency crisis (ECC Board Resolution No. 98-01 of 30th January 1998) and sugar industry crisis (ECC Board Resolution No. 98-01 of 28th October 1998) are **not eligible** for this loan;
2.3 Members who have paid and remitted to the SSS at least six (6) monthly contributions before the semester of separation from employment;
2.4 Members who have not been previously granted refund of contributions, retirement or total permanent disability benefits; and
2.5 Members who have not been disqualified by the Social Security Commission as a result of filing fraudulent loan applications with the SSS.

3. **AMOUNT OF LOAN**

3.1 Qualified members may apply for a one-month, two-month, or three-month salary loan based on their highest monthly salary credit, but not to exceed Twelve Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P12,500.00).
3.2 Any existing loan balance of the member shall not be deducted from this emergency loan.

4. **FORM OF PAYMENT**

The loan shall be paid within two (2) years in equal monthly installments. The payment shall start after a moratorium of twelve (12) months following the date of release of the loan.

5. **INTEREST RATE**

5.1 The loan shall bear a simple interest of six percent (6%) per annum. It shall be deducted from the loan **in advance.** No service fee will be charged.
5.2 A penalty of one percent (1%) per month shall be charged for late payment.

Please be guided accordingly.

JUANITO J. LAO
Officer-In-Charge

07 September 2001

Bin Laden: Taliban's most valuable tenant

(From page A1)

"(Bin Laden's) been a major economic force, attracting millions, certainly tens of millions, of dollars in external support to Afghanistan," said Jonathan M. Winer, the deputy assistant secretary of state for international enforcement during the Clinton administration.

In one instance, a Taliban commander in Afghanistan told The Associated Press that he had taken $250,000 supplied by Bin Laden to Kunduz province in the north to finance the Taliban war effort there.

In another, an airport manager in the eastern city of Jalalabad told AP that Bin Laden operatives arrived toting gym bags and briefcases full of cash.

The men carried cards from the Taliban leadership ordering officials to give them safe passage, said the manager, who goes by the single name Abdullah.

Across the globe

The fighters that Bin Laden control have supposedly spread across the globe to support Islamic rebellions from Chechnya to Albania to the Philippines, and supporters of those struggles have allegedly funneled money back to him.

Through his brother-in-law Mohammad Jamal Khalifa, he reportedly set up in Mindanao the International Islamic Research Organization ostensibly to channel funds to local Muslim communities to establish *Madrosa* schools.

"That pan-Islamic military support has caused people who support that kind of action to contribute money to Bin Laden, which in turn flows to the Taliban in part," Winer said.

The Taliban's overseas assets have been frozen. It lost another source of income when it bowed to international demands to eliminate Afghanistan's huge opium crop, the raw material used to make heroin.

The result has been devastating for farmers and day laborers who depended on poppy production for their survival.

Like a landlord reluctantly moving to oust a valuable tenant, Taliban leaders urged Bin Laden on Thursday to voluntarily leave Afghanistan.

But US President George W. Bush immediately rejected that and ordered the Taliban to turn Bin Laden over. Bush also called on the religious militia to close all terrorist camps in Afghanistan, not just those directly tied to him.

Liability

Bin Laden is a hero of Afghanistan's successful war with the then Soviet Union. If the Taliban forces him to leave, it can be branded a hypocrite by the radical militants on whom it depends for financing and other support.

Still, allowing him to remain could mean a massive US attack—one that might oust the Taliban from power.

"The Taliban leaders are beginning to see him as more of a liability than as an asset," said Peter Chalk, an analyst specializing in terrorism and national security for the Washington-based Rand Corp.

It was because of pressure from the United States and North African countries that Sudan forced Bin Laden to leave in 1996.

The global community also persuaded Libya to give up two intelligence agents in 1999 who were suspected in the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland. The United Nations issued resolutions barring air travel to and from Libya, and imposed other sanctions.

The US government is hoping it can duplicate that success with the Taliban. But impoverished Afghanistan may have less to lose than other renegade countries, and international sanctions so far have not moved the Taliban.

"(Bin Laden) continues to pay rent and his lease hasn't expired," said Frank Cilluffo, senior policy analyst at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a Washington think tank. **AP**

Indon Muslims ignore Bush

JAKARTA, Indonesia—Mosque preachers leading Friday prayers in this most populous Muslim nation made no mention of US President George W. Bush's warning of a strike on Muslim Afghanistan.

In its weekly circular to clerics across the nation, the influential Islamic Propagation Council ignored the crisis spawned by the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on America and focused instead on the need to combat communism, an ideology banned after a military takeover in 1967 and showing no sign of revival.

The circular illustrated how little impact the crisis has had in Indonesia, where few Muslims identify with radical Islamic movements more typical of the Middle East.

Here, alcohol is legal, nightclubs are ubiquitous, and the networks broadcast American TV shows.

Indonesia has strongly backed US plans to combat international terrorism. President Megawati Sukarnoputri, leader of the country's largest secular party, met with Bush on Wednesday and pledged that her government would "cooperate with the United States and other civilized countries on counter-terrorism." ***AP***

It's Afghans vs Afghans

(From page A1)

examples of the Soviet Union and the former East European communist regimes.

"It was a surprise that at a certain moment the people there who did not agree with those regimes felt it was the right moment and they stepped forward and they acted on their own. It was not some country going in and rooting it out," he said.

The Taliban claimed Saturday that they had shot down a Northern Alliance helicopter in the northern Afghan province of Samangan.

Abdul Hanan Himat of the Taliban's Bakhter Information Agency said the helicopter had "apparently" been carrying some leading figures in the Northern Alliance but could not provide any further information.

His statement that a helicopter was downed added some confusion to earlier claims by Taliban officials that they had shot down an unidentified spy plane in the same area.

"We shot a spy plane but we have not yet been able to determine which country this plane belonged to," Abdul Hai Mutmaen, a spokesperson for the Taliban's supreme leader Mullah Mohammad Omar, was quoted as saying by the Afghan Islamic Press, a Pakistan-based news agency.

A senior Taliban diplomat in Pakistan had earlier been quoted as identifying the plane as belonging to the United States, the first claim of any military contact between the US and the Taliban.

Unmanned spy planes normally fly at high altitude, far outside the range of heavy machine guns.

Observers also noted that the Taliban had failed to shoot down a single opposition plane in years of civil war.

Denial

An official in the Afghan opposition on Saturday denied the Taliban report that one of alliance's aircraft had been shot down.

Muhamad Salekh Registani, the military attaché of the Afghan Embassy in Moscow, who was visiting the embassy in Dushanbe, said there was no truth to a report Saturday from the Taliban's official news agency in Kabul that the aircraft was shot down in the Dar-e-suf district of northern Afghanistan.

"We have not had a flight to Dar-e-suf in Samangan in the past three days," Registani said. "We have not lost a helicopter."

Dar-e-suf has been the scene of the heaviest fighting between the Taliban and the Northern Alliance this year.

The newly appointed commander of the Northern Alliance, Gen. Mohammed Fahim, arrived in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, on Saturday to discuss the military and political situation in the region, Registani said.

Fahim will meet with high-ranking Tajik military officials to discuss the latest developments following last week's terrorist attacks.

The opposition forces named Fahim to replace Ahmed Shah Massood, who was attacked by suicide bombers Sept. 9 and died last week after nearly a week in critical condition.

The opposition is in a weakened state after the assassination of Massood, which it blames on the Taliban and Bin Laden.

Targets

Whether it would begin with cruise missiles from US Navy ships, bombs from air force jets or quick strikes by army special forces, a US attack on the Taliban probably would aim to knock out airfields, communications links and other targets that sustain the militia.

War on the Taliban would be like little anything the US military has undertaken before. But at least it would offer more of what Rumsfeld calls "high-value" targets than would the shadowy terrorist al-Qaida network of Bin Laden.

If US President George W. Bush decides to attack the Taliban, one of the most attractive targets would be the civilian-military airport in Kabul, the capital, and a Taliban garrison in the north of the city. The Islamic regime flies MiG fighters and helicopter gunships from this airport.

Among other potential targets:

- The airport in Kandahar, the city in southeastern Afghanistan where the Taliban leaders are based.
- The airport and Taliban military bases located in and around Jalalabad, a city in eastern Afghanistan near the Pakistan border. There are similar bases north of Jalalabad in Kunar province.
- Communications towers on the outskirts of Kabul.
- A military academy near Kabul.
- A large dam near Sarobie that provides electricity for the Kabul area.

Obstacle

Another Post report, however, suggested a potential obstacle to the military's planning. The Post said Saudi Arabia is balking at a US request to use a new command center on a Saudi military base in any air war against terrorists.

That is forcing US Defense Department planners to consider alternatives that could delay a campaign for weeks, the newspaper reported on its website Friday night, citing unidentified defense officials.

Taliban leaders, who have given refuge to Bin Laden since 1996, say there is no proof he was behind the terror attacks, and have rejected Bush's demand that they hand him over without evidence.

Bush made clear that his first priority was smashing the al-Qaida network, but he is assembling forces in the Gulf region that would provide plenty of air power to strike at the Taliban, too.

But much of that firepower—including two aircraft carriers (and a third on the way), B-52 bombers, warships capable of launching ground-attack Tomahawk cruise missiles, and fighters—would appear to have little relevance in the hunt for Bin Laden.

The Clinton administration fired dozens of cruise missiles at Bin Laden's training camps in 1998 but accomplished little more than destroying empty tents.

Non-military means

It is widely expected that a US campaign against the terrorists would be led by special operations forces such as helicopter-borne Army Rangers.

Important, too, would be non-military means such as financial steps to dry up Bin Laden's resources, and law-enforcement moves against his accomplices.

If Bush hopes to succeed in "smoking out" Bin Laden, as the president has put it, he first will have to find the elusive Saudi exile.

The US government believes he is on the move within Afghanistan but has not left the country.

One veteran of the 1979-1989 Soviet war in Afghanistan, Lt. Gen. Ruslan Aushev, has said the United States will find Bin Laden only if it combs 512,000 square kilometers "rock by rock." Afghanistan actually covers about 640,000 square kilometers, and is larger than France.

Gunships

Northern Alliance helicopter gunships fired rockets into the Kabul airport on Sept. 12, hours after the devastating terror attacks in the United States, according to Taliban soldiers and eyewitnesses.

Three Taliban aircraft were reportedly destroyed, including a passenger jet of the country's Ariana Airlines, eyewitnesses said on condition of anonymity.

Opposition soldiers facing off against the Taliban troops barely 50 kilometers north of the capital originally denied the attack, but later took responsibility.

"Our helicopters attacked the airport," said Waisuddin Salik, who was contacted by satellite telephone at the front line north of Kabul.

Salik said the airport attack was in retaliation for relentless bombing raids by Taliban jet fighters on opposition territory north of the capital. ***Reports from AP and AFP***

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, September 23, 2001
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Am 8:4-7

Hear this, you who trample on the needy to do away with the weak of the land. You who say, "When will the new moon or the Sabbath feast be over that we may open the store and sell our grain? Let us lower the measure and raise the price; let us cheat and tamper with the scales, and even sell the refuse with the whole grain. We will buy up the poor for money and the needy for a pair of sandals."

Yahweh, the pride of Jacob, has sworn by himself, "I shall never forget their deeds."

2nd Reading: 1 Tim 2:1-8

First of all I urge that petitions, prayers, intercessions and thanksgiving be made for everyone, for rulers of states and all in authority, that we may enjoy a quiet and peaceful life in godliness and respect. This is good and pleases God. For he wants all to be saved and come to the knowledge of truth. As there is one God, there is one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave his life for the redemption of all. This is the testimony, given in its proper time, and of this, God has made me apostle and herald. I am not lying, I am telling the truth: He made me teacher of the nations regarding faith and truth.

I want the men in every place to lift pure hands in prayer to heaven without anger and dissension.

Gospel: Lk 16:1-13

Jesus told his disciples, "There was a rich man whose steward was reported to him for fraudulent service. He summoned the steward and asked him: 'What is this I hear about you? I want you to render an account of your service for it is about to be terminated.'

The steward thought to himself: 'What am I to do now? My master will surely dismiss me. I am not strong enough to do hard work, and I am ashamed to beg. I know what I will do: I must make sure that when I am dismissed, there will be some people to welcome me into their house.'

So he called his master's debtors one by one. He asked the first who came: 'How much do you owe my master?' The reply was: 'A hundred jars of oil.' The steward said: 'Here is your bill. Sit down quickly and write there fifty.' To the second he put the same question: 'How much do you owe?' The answer was: 'A thousand bushels of wheat.' Then he said: 'Take your bill and write eight hundred.'

The master commended the dishonest steward for his astuteness. For the people of this world are more astute in dealing with their own kind than are the people of light. And so I tell you: use filthy money to make friends for yourselves, so that when it fails, these people may welcome you into the eternal homes.

Whoever can be trusted in little things can also be trusted in great ones; whoever is dishonest in slight matters will also be dishonest in greater ones. So if you have not been trustworthy in handling filthy money, who could entrust you with true wealth? And if you have not been trustworthy with things which are not really yours, who will give you the wealth which is your own?

No servant can serve two masters. Either he does not like the one and is fond of the other, or he regards one highly and the other with contempt. You cannot give yourself both to God and to Money."

Commentary

This is a story taken from ancient business management. The manager is described in the story as dishonest and so he is fired. Before letting him go, his employer now wants an auditing on his mismanaged property. Now in crisis, he has to make a decision. He lessens the amount to be paid by those who owe his employer in order to build up goodwill. Surprisingly, the employer commends what the manager has done. Historians tell us that in the ancient orient only the total amount owed appeared in the receipts. This amount would already include the principal, the commission, and the interest, which were not itemized. We cannot win all; we must lose some in order to gain heaven.

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SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

MERCANTILE LAW (CORPORATION LAW)—Exercise of rights of a stockholder—The determination of whether or not a shareholder is entitled to exercise the rights of stockholder is within the jurisdiction of the SEC. The duty of a corporate secretary to record transfers of stocks is ministerial. However, he cannot be compelled to do so when the transferee's title to said shares has no *prima facie* validity or is uncertain. More specifically, a pledgor, prior to foreclose and sale, does not acquire ownership rights over the pledged shares and thus cannot compel the corporate secretary to record his alleged ownership of such shares on the basis merely of the contract of pledge. Similarly, the SEC does not acquire jurisdiction over a dispute when a party's claim to being a shareholder is, on the face of the complaint. "*Mandamus* will not issue to establish a right, but only to enforce one that is already established." (Lim Tay v. Court of Appeals, 293 SCRA 634 [1988]) The fact that private respondent is allegedly not yet a stockholder of record does not remove the case from the jurisdiction of the SEC, for it is precisely the right of recording and the right to be issued stock certificates that said respondent sought to enforce by *mandamus*. [Citations omitted.] [Justice Quisumbing, Second Division, TCL Sales Corporation v. Court of Appeals, G. R. No. 129777, January 5, 2001]

DIGEST BY R. B. VERA

Defiant voices vow: We'll fight till death

(From page A1)

have an upper hand on us," he said. "We call for jihad (holy war), and we defy you, the Americans."

In Tehran, prayer leader Mohammad Yazdi spoke in more measured tones against one of Iran's longtime enemies, saying only that any US attempt "to seek revenge from a poor and weak country . . . cannot achieve anything."

"Terrorism has been condemned and always will be condemned, but the fight against terrorism should not be hasty," Yazdi said.

Sergei Rogov, head of the USA-Canada Institute, an apolitical think tank in Moscow, said Bush's speech before the US Congress Thursday night was "a masterpiece of political rhetoric" but that he failed to acknowledge America's own mistakes, particularly in its Middle East policy.

"He (Bush) didn't say a word about that," Rogov said. "America had a hand in creating a monster like Bin Laden . . . They (America) cultivated this monster against the Soviet Union."

In Cairo, Saber paused from his work mending bicycles in a downtown workshop and said: "Was it really Bin Laden who planned these attacks (in New York and Washington)? As long as we do not have any evidence, we cannot prove he is implicated.

"If a group in a European country had been behind the attacks, would the reaction of the United States have been the same as it is now against the Islamic countries?"

Mona, a dentist, urged world unity against terrorism but said an attack against the impoverished people of Afghanistan would be a "terrorist action" itself.

In Amman, Jordan, cleric Mussa Abu-Sweilem declared that "the Muslim people are united, just like one body."

At Bahrain's Grand Mosque in Manama, a cleric warned that "revenge will increase against the United States if it takes any action." He said America "has no right to take action before investigating this matter."

Justice, not revenge

In Saudi Arabia, a leading US ally in the Middle East and a possible staging ground for US strikes, some of the few words of public endorsement for the expected offensive were aired, but these were couched inside appeals that it be limited.

"Aim for justice, not revenge," a Saudi newspaper urged the US government.

Saudis in mosques and elsewhere expressed the same wish, but said they expected it to go unheard.

"Whether we like it or not, America will go ahead and strike, which will result in the deaths of thousands of innocent people," said a 23-year-old Saudi who spoke on condition that he be identified only as Moyad.

Many Canadians complained that Bush's speech neglected to mention—or thank—America's northern neighbors.

Some felt that Canada merited public thanks for its quick response to the Sept. 11 attacks, including its decision to allow numerous planes bound for the United States to be diverted to its airports after US air space was closed.

Radio call-in shows were buzzing in Toronto after the front page of the Toronto Sun newspaper blared: "Bush Snubs Us."

But Prime Minister Jean Chretien's office shrugged it off. "If it is anything, it is an indication that our support goes without saying," said Francoise Ducros, a spokesperson for Chretien.

In China, feelings among the public were mixed.

"He (Bush) lost more than 6,000 citizens. As a president, he should do something. I support his actions," said Vincent Chan, an IT manager in Hong Kong.

Sales manager Peter To disagreed, saying: "By going to war, he is only telling his people that Americans are very strong people and he would defend their so-called freedom.

"But is this a real solution to the underlying problems? I don't think so."

Finnish Prime Minister Paavo Lipponen said "Finland no more than the (European Union) will give the United States full authority in advance to act as it wishes."

But he added: "The most important thing is to demonstrate prudence. The legitimacy of any action is also important."

War against Islam

Muslims denounced Bush's description of the coming war as a "crusade"—a remark apologized for by the White House, which said it was meant only to express a sense of a common cause.

Despite the apology, cleric Sheik Maher Hammoud said in the southern Lebanese city of Sidon that "it is a war against Islam."

"The Americans cover their colonial aims with hollow slogans such as 'war against terrorism' . . . while everyone knows that the real American motives are not that," he said.

The head of south Lebanon's religious scholars, Sheik Afif al-Naboulsi, said America planned nothing less than "a security, political and economic project that will lead to the control of oil-rich former Soviet Muslim republics."

Businessman Ismail Bishtawi said in Amman that "it is a new crusader war, but this time it's directed against Muslims."

"The United States is falling into the trap of those terrorists and it's holding the Muslim world, all the Muslims, responsible for something they haven't done," he said.

In Egypt, clerics of the Al-Azhar Ulama Front said Arab countries joining the US-led coalition might one day find themselves its target, if that suited the interests of the countries controlling it.

An until-now unknown organization, the Islamic Quzeda Army, Unity of the Arabian Peninsula, said in a statement released in Beirut that it would "strike with an iron fist" if Muslim governments provided the United States any assistance, information or ground, air and naval installations.

3 killed

At least three people were killed in Pakistan as protesters burned effigies of Bush and vowed to fight US forces if they attack Afghanistan.

In Peshawar, one tribal leader, Sabar Abdul Rehman, told demonstrators that his area near the Khyber Pass would reduce the price of guns from 8,000 rupees ($124) to 500 ($8).

"I invite the Americans to come to our land so they can see for themselves what will be done to them," he said.

At a Muslim service at the towering Lal Masjid mosque in Islamabad, the capital, Pakistani leader Gen. Pervez Musharraf was warned against cooperating with America.

"Musharraf, listen: The nation will not accept your decision, and any collaboration with the United States is treason," the preacher said. ***Reports from AP and Reuters***

Why NY loves Giuliani

(From page A1)

term expires.

Ordinary New Yorkers disagree.

"Ten more years!" shouted a rescue worker Monday as the mayor toured the site of the World Trade Center disaster.

"Giuliani's got balls," 28-year-old Puerto Rican Jaime Elizondo told Agence France Presse. "While (US President George W.) Bush has been flying around in planes and hiding out in bunkers, Giuliani, who I didn't like before, has been right in there, getting this city back on its feet."

Many New Yorkers are now wishing they could undo a term-limit law that prevents the erstwhile lame-duck mayor from running for office again.

Before Sept. 11, Giuliani was reviled by New York's black and Hispanic communities. But an opinion poll published Friday showed a stunning 91 percent of the city's population thought his handling of the aftermath of the tragedy was "good" or "excellent."

Particularly in the early stages of the disaster, before Bush and other federal officials had spoken out, Giuliani was the public official most associated with the tragedy for television viewers around the world.

Jerry Hauer, head of Giuliani's Office of Emergency Management, said, "I've been in the disaster business for a long time, and frankly, there are very few elected officials as good as him."

Gentle, calm

After barely escaping with his own life from a building adjacent to the twin towers, Giuliani gently, calmly informed his fellow New Yorkers that the death toll would be "more than any of us could bear."

On the Tuesday of the attack, he got so close to the horrible scene at the World Trade Center that he had to be ushered away, dust on his shoulders. On Wednesday he was back, wearing a surgical mask to keep out the ash.

He lost personal friends and officiated at funerals; he has worked around the clock, holding news conferences in between visits to the disaster site and meetings to coordinate the response; and he has pledged to rebuild and prosper.

He even found time to officiate at a wedding, saying, "This is what life is all about."

During the 1996 blizzard and the loss of TWA Flight 800 the same year, the mayor endeared himself to many New Yorkers with his many public appearances.

But after deciding to run for the Senate against Hillary Rodham-Clinton last year, Giuliani was diagnosed with prostate cancer and his marriage publicly crumbled amid revelations that he had a girlfriend.

Citing his illness, he pulled out of the Senate race. He is in the middle of a nasty divorce.

'Amazing'

Rachel Biern, who works as an online researcher, did not support the mayor until now.

"I think he's been amazing under crisis," she said. "He was just the right balance of sadness and determination. He really does care about New York."

Randy Mastro, who heads a commission on the City Charter, which bars officials from serving more than two terms, said he has received hundreds of calls and e-mails "asking if there's anything that can be done to see to it that Rudy continues as mayor."

Some say voters should write his name on the ballot paper as a protest when they go to vote in November's mayoral election; others say the ballot should simply be canceled.

"I wish he could stay on and that we didn't have term limits," said Linda Yarwood, a Manhattan paralegal. "I would vote for him again. He is a pillar of strength for our community and our nation."

"The mayor . . . is showing what a true leader is in the midst of a major crisis. We should suspend the election. The people of the city of New York need him," said Geraldo Nieves, in a contribution to the tabloid New York Post's dedicated e-mail address, RudythanksAnypost.com.

Suspect

But New York state Gov. George Pataki confirmed Friday that the Democratic primary had been rescheduled for Sept. 25—it was to have taken place the day of the attacks—with the election taking place on schedule on Nov. 7.

And political commentators said clinging to office would not be in the best interest of Giuliani himself, who has been entirely non-partisan in his efforts to boost rescue workers' morale and comfort the desperate relatives of the more than 6,000 reported missing in the rubble.

"From the moment Giuliani announces his availability (to stay on as mayor), every one of his actions will be suspect, even those innocent of politics," warned Pete Hamill, political commentator for the tabloid Daily News.

Nelson Warfield, a Republican political consultant and former press secretary to Bob Dole, predicted that "whoever becomes mayor will beg him to stay on in some role to oversee the rebuilding of the city. But I think Rudy Giuliani goes wherever he wants from here. If he chooses to seek political office, I can't imagine anybody stopping him."

Four Democrats and two Republicans are running for mayor.

'Write; get divorced'

Joseph Mercurio, consultant at National Political Services Inc., predicted the primaries for New York's mayoral election would go ahead as planned this week and Giuliani would decline an invitation to stay on as head of the new Reconstruction Commission to rebuild New York's financial district.

"Staying on as commissioner would mean not being in charge, being under the new mayor. It's not in his character," Mercurio said.

"I bet he'd go into the private sector, write books, get divorced. I think he would comment on the reconstruction plans and the city's economic development, make his presence known and then stand for reelection in four years' time."

"For the next four years everybody's going to be looking at the new mayor and thinking 'Gee, what would've Giuliani done in that position?'. . . Then he could come back and say 'They didn't do as good a job. Take me back.'"

The Times said Giuliani's successor would have a hard time living up to the reputation he has forged over the past 10 days.

"What politician would be brave enough to share power with him? New York is not big enough for two mayors. When Mr. Giuliani is involved, it's barely big enough for one."

Some New Yorkers also say their mayor should run for president in 2004. But Mercurio said it was highly unlikely Giuliani would go up against a Republican incumbent.

Not big on czars

Former Mayor Ed Koch, a Democrat who wrote a book about Giuliani called "Nasty Man," said Giuliani "over the last eight years has often been petty and insensitive. But there's no question he has risen to the occasion here. The challenge of leading the city when it's under attack, comparable to war, has been met."

Koch suggested that Giuliani be kept on as a reconstruction czar.

Asked Monday if he would consider being an anti-terrorism czar, Giuliani said: "I've never been big on czars."

Last Sunday, he presided at a promotion ceremony for the Fire Department to fill its leadership ranks after hundreds of firefighters were lost Tuesday.

He quoted Churchill during the ceremony, saying: "Courage is rightly esteemed the first of human qualities because it's the quality which guarantees all others."

Coincidentally, a facility that many thought symbolized the mayor went down in the collapse of the twin towers on Tuesday.

Some critics said the $13-million, 4,500-square-meter, high-tech emergency center Giuliani built in 1999 was appropriate in scope to his ego. Others said the new center, built to withstand hurricane-force winds, bombs and power failures, was essential to keeping the city running in the case of a major emergency. *Reports from AP, AFP*

Star-spangled TV tribute to heroes

(From page A1)

The unprecedented, commercial-free show, dubbed "America: A Tribute to Heroes" and simulcast live from candle-lit studios in Los Angeles and New York, was carried on at least 31 US broadcast and cable networks and beamed to 156 countries around the globe.

Dozens of stars from the movie, television and music industries took part in the emotional but subdued event, providing entertainment and helping to answer telephones and to take pledges from viewers.

The roster of luminaries represented a Who's Who of the world's pop icons—from former world heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali to film star Tom Cruise.

Springsteen opened the two-hour show playing acoustic guitar and harmonica and singing "My City of Ruins," a song he premiered in a pair of live concerts late last year in Asbury Park, New Jersey.

"With these hands, I pray for the strength, Lord, I pray for the faith, Lord, pray for your love, Lord. Pray for the loss, Lord," the New Jersey-born musician sang.

Tom Hanks, Julia Roberts, Sally Fields, Robert De Niro, Clint Eastwood, Chris Rock, Will Smith, Jim Carrey and George Clooney were among the actors participating in the event, while musical performers included Billy Joel, Paul Simon, Bruce Springsteen, Stevie Wonder, Willie Nelson, Britain's Sting and Canada's Celine Dion.

Despite the presence of so many celebrities, the fundraiser proved to be an understated gala, without audience, applause, no red carpeted arrivals or gleaming limousines.

"We are here tonight as a simple show of unity to honor the real heroes and to do whatever we can to insure that all their families are supported by our larger American family," Hanks said during the broadcast.

Organizers said the program aimed "to unite a shaken world with words and music while paying tribute to the indomitable spirit, unfaltering fortitude and courage that truly makes America 'the land of the free and the home of the brave.'"

They said a main goal of the evening was to focus not on the stars, but on the stories of the men and women who died performing heroic deeds on September 11.

And Ali, a convert to Islam, rejected the notion that those who launched the attacks on the United States were in any way reflecting Islamic teachings.

"I'm a Muslim. I've been a Muslim for 20 years. I'm against violence and killing and all Muslims are against it," he said.

The special ended with country legend Willie Nelson leading the assembled stars in Los Angeles—among them Al Pacino, Halle Berry, Jack Nicholson, Tom Cruise, Julia Roberts, Sylvester Stallone, Clint Eastwood and Stevie Wonder—in several choruses of "America the Beautiful."

Earlier, Mariah Carey gave a solo rendition of the popular song "Hero," marking her first public performance since suffering a mental and physical breakdown in late July. And Canadian-born songstress Celine Dion, who went on hiatus last year to devote more time to her family, emerged on the program to sing a rousing rendition of "God Bless America."

At the outset of the show, actor Tom Hanks said he and his fellow entertainers were joining to "raise spirits and hopefully a lot of money" for victims of the attacks on New York's World Trade Center and the Pentagon and for the victims' families.

Hanks then paid tribute to the passengers believed to have rushed hijackers on one of the day's four redirected flights, causing their plane to plunge into rural Pennsylvania. The passengers are credited with preventing the aircraft from being crashed into another Washington target.

"They likely saved our world from an even darker day and more unthinkable horror," Hanks said.

Julia Roberts, her voice trembling, spoke of people who were caught in the stricken trade center's twin towers on Sept. 11 and who "lived the code of the day—before we save ourselves, we save others."

Between Hanks and Roberts, a parade of other film and television stars spoke briefly and appealed for donations. Their appearances were interspersed with musical performances by Stevie Wonder, U2, Faith Hill, Tom Petty, Limp Bizkit, Enrique Iglesias, the Dixie Chicks, Wyclef Jean, Alicia Keys, Sheryl Crow and Sting. Billy Joel sang "A New York State of Mind," and Neil Young performed John Lennon's "Imagine."

Actor Will Smith appeared with former heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali, who introduced himself in a halting voice as a Muslim and said: "I wouldn't be here to represent Islam if it were the way the terrorists made it look. . . . Islam is for peace."

Smith portrays Ali, who has Parkinson's disease, in an upcoming movie.

Actors Dennis Franz and Jimmy Smits, who starred together on the hit police show "NYPD Blue," talked about a police officer who died after carrying oxygen tanks into one of the World Trade Center towers. Tom Cruise saluted Mychal Judge, a New York Fire Department chaplain killed while administering last rites to a fallen firefighter.

The show was simulcast by all seven commercial US broadcast networks—ABC, CBS, NBC, Fox, WB, UPN and Pax—in an unprecedented collaborative effort among media outlets that normally compete for viewers.

Also carrying the special were public broadcaster PBS; the nation's two biggest Spanish-language networks, Univision and Telemundo; and another 21 cable channels, including HBO, MTV, Showtime and USA Networks.

More than 8,000 radio stations around the country aired the broadcast as well, as did the Internet portal Yahoo, which set up a website (http://www.tributetoheroes.org) to accept pledges and remain active after the broadcast with donation and volunteer information.

Outside the United States, the show was beamed to broadcast and cable outlets in at least 156 countries and on the American Forces Network, which carried it live on television and radio to US troops in more than 175 nations.

Carried live in the United States' Eastern and Central time zones and tape-delayed for the rest of the country, the simulcast was believed to mark the world's biggest assemblage of broadcast and cable outlets around a single entertainment event.

Organizers said the two-hour broadcast averaged roughly 50,000 calls an hour Friday, although it was not immediately known how much money was raised by the event.

Proceeds were to be funneled into relief efforts, with the costs of the broadcast underwritten by the NBC, CBS, ABC and Fox networks. *Reuters, AFP*

No hijacker on Cloud 9

(From page A1)

Moises "Moy" Tenorio exclaimed during the flight, which brought him over Metro Manila and to Meycauayan and Plaridel in Bulacan.

The boy with a brain tumor took a step closer to his dream of flying when he "co-piloted" a government-owned training plane for almost an hour last Saturday afternoon.

It may take some time before he earns his wings but already Moy Tenorio now feels like a full-fledged pilot.

He was taken on a discovery flight by the Philippine State College of Aeronautics (Philsca), where at some point, he took over the controls of the single-engine, five-seater TB9-C (Tampico) plane and flew it by himself.

Seated at the cockpit beside Philsca safety pilot Capt. Delfin de Ramos and getting instructions from him, the boy deftly held the control yoke and steered the plane at 2,500 feet over Manila Bay.

His 18-year-old brother Jalfonso and this reporter joined him in the flight.

Easy if you know how

"It (flying) seems easy if you have the training," an exhilarated Moy, who donned a light blue captain polo shirt complete with four bars and a pin, chuckled at the end of his 56-minute flight.

De Ramos himself was pleased with Moy. "He's got the pulse and he's a quick study."

That day, Moy also had a breathtaking view of the Manila skyline; the vast expanse of Manila Bay; the fishponds and verdant fields with a river snaking through them in Bulacan; ships docked in the waters of Malabon.

Moved by the INQUIRER feature on the boy in July, Captain De Ramos volunteered to take him on a discovery flight. Philsca president Dr. Henrietta Sumalbag and vice president Dr. Felix Boyles readily agreed.

De Ramos secured approval from then Commissioner Norberto Padua of the Commission on Higher Education and the Air Transportation Office for Moy's flight.

A cure

"Flying can cure you," Col. Santiago Medrana, Philsca aviation director and former Air Force pilot, told Moy prior to his flight. "I'm more than 60 years old but I don't look that old. I credit that to flying."

That his health continues to improve (and that he was able to fly a plane) is a miracle itself, according to his family, since he was only given five months to live in October last year.

So far, Moy's response to treatments, including a three-month chemotherapy and a 30-day radiation therapy, has been positive. Only small residuals of the tumor are left in his brain and spine.

Moy, according to Philsca officials, is the first youngster to be taken on such a flight by the school. Normally, aspiring and student-pilots are taken on such a flight for a fee.

The discovery flight was Moy's first, and a perfect send-off gift for the boy, who is traveling to the United States with his sister, Dr. Bena Tenorio, this week for a four-month vacation.

There, he will stay with his eldest brother and idol, Alarico, an aeronautics engineer with the US Air Force.

Darling of airlines

Since he was featured in the INQUIRER in July, he has become a darling of the airlines and flying schools, like Philsca, which is based inside Villamor Air Base in Pasay City.

Moy, who quit school since he was diagnosed with the tumor in October last year, toured the Ninoy Aquino International Airport on July 17, saying he wanted to see its facilities because he "dreamed of flying a plane someday."

The INQUIRER picked up his dream and so did other airlines.

He was flown on a Cebu Pacific DC-9 plane from Manila to Cebu and back last month. Prior to that he was toured inside a Japan Airlines plane painted with Disney characters and a Philippine Airlines plane.

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Bombers, Stags forge final duel

By June Navarro

JOSE Rizal University and San Sebastian College arranged a championship showdown by beating their respective foes yesterday in the Final Four of the NCAA basketball tournament at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum.

Spitfire Ernani Epondulan powered the Heavy Bombers to a masterful 99-76 victory over defending champion College of St. Benilde and a second Finals' appearance in three years.

The Stags relied on endgame breaks to eliminate Mapua Tech, 48-44, in the other semifinal battle.

The Heavy Bombers and the Stags, who both entered the Final Four at the top of the heap, begin their best-of-three titular clash on Monday.

Showing no mercy, the Heavy Bombers pounced on every opportunity as they grabbed a huge 58-32 spread in the third and never looked back.

The Heavy Bombers only displayed signs of slowing down as the Blazers caught fire with 10 triples down the stretch.

But veterans Epondulan, Ariel Capus and Joel Finuliar made sure the Bombers wouldn't end the season on a sour note.

The trio made timely shots and grabbed crucial possessions to keep the Blazers at bay and the wildly cheering JRU gallery on their feet.

Roy Falcasantos sparked the Stags' breakaway with a trey midway in the final quarter.

The Stags then held the Cardinals scoreless for five minutes.

In the junior division, the San Beda Red Cubs and the Letran Squires set a Finals' encounter after writing off the San Sebastian Staglets and the defending champion Mapua Red Robins, respectively.

SCORES

SSC 48—Reguerra 10, Alfad 9, Coronel 8, Macapagal 6, Moore 6, Falcasantos 5, Uy 2, Najorda 2, De Leon 0.

MAPUA 44—Martin 12, Silva 10, Lagar 7, Feliciano 5, Guevarra 4, Dula 2, Bangoy 2, Marucot 2, Tiongco 0, Sta. Maria 0, Roxas 0.

Quarters: 16-11, 26-21, 34-35, 48-44

Sta. Lucia eyes 4-0 card

GAMES TODAY (Philsports Arena)
4:05p.m.—Sta. Lucia vs Shell
6:10p.m.—Red Bull vs Tanduay

By June Navarro

STA. Lucia Realty intends to protect its spotless record even as Red Bull and Tanduay scurry out of a slump today in the PBA Governors Cup at the Philsports Arena.

Still unbeaten after three outings along with Talk N Text, the Realtors are out to strengthen their hold of the lead against the Shell Turbo Chargers in the curtain-raiser at 4:05 p.m.

The task at hand, though, is easier said than done as the Turbo Chargers possess a scoring machine of an import in Askia Jones, the thorn that odds-makers feel could possibly deflate the Realtors' winning run.

"Shell has quite an explosive import in Jones. Indeed, this is going to be a tough test for us as far as imports and matchups are concerned," said SLR coach Norman Black.

In Shell's past two games, Jones scored at least 40 points, an instrumental feat that carried the Turbo Chargers to a 99-81 romp over the Alaska Aces last week. Tanduay and Red Bull attempt to break a losing spell in the other game at 6:10 p.m.

Pop nips San Mig in OT

ANTIPOLO CITY—Pop Cola survived a scoreless spell in the last four minutes of regulation and bucked a five-point deficit heading to the final two minutes of extension to nip San Miguel Beer, 96-95, last night in the PBA Governors Cup at the Ynares Center here. Pop leveled its slate at 2-2, while San Miguel fell to 2-1.

Training camp

NBA NOTES

Henry Liao

JOSEMARIA Liao, father of PDI columnist Henry Liao, passed away on Sept. 19. His body lies in state at Arlington Memorial Chapel along Araneta Avenue in Q.C. Interment will be on Wednesday, Sept. 26, at Manila Memorial Park in Sucat, Parañaque after the 8 a.m. Mass at Arlington Memorial Chapel.

* * *

THE NBA is into the dog days of free agency and the start of training camp is just around the corner. Before long, the 2001-02 regular-season fireworks will have commenced.

Training camps will open on Oct. 1. Originally, six of the 29 teams with scheduled commitments to play preseason games outside the United States and Canada were to open camp on Sept. 29 and the rest would follow suit on Oct. 2.

However, in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on New York and Washington D.C., the NBA decided to cancel the six preseason games to be held in Cologne, Germany; Pesaro, Italy; Tokyo, Japan; and Mexico City.

All other preseason games to be held in North America will be played as scheduled. The NBA's 2001 exhibition season, which now consists of 106 games, tips off on Oct. 5 (Oct. 6, Manila time) when Toronto and Minnesota meet in Billings, Montana. The exhibition games conclude on Oct. 26. Teams play anywhere between five and eight games during the preseason.

The NBA's 56th regular campaign starts Oct. 30 with 24 teams in action. One of the dozen games scheduled on opening day is Washington at New York.

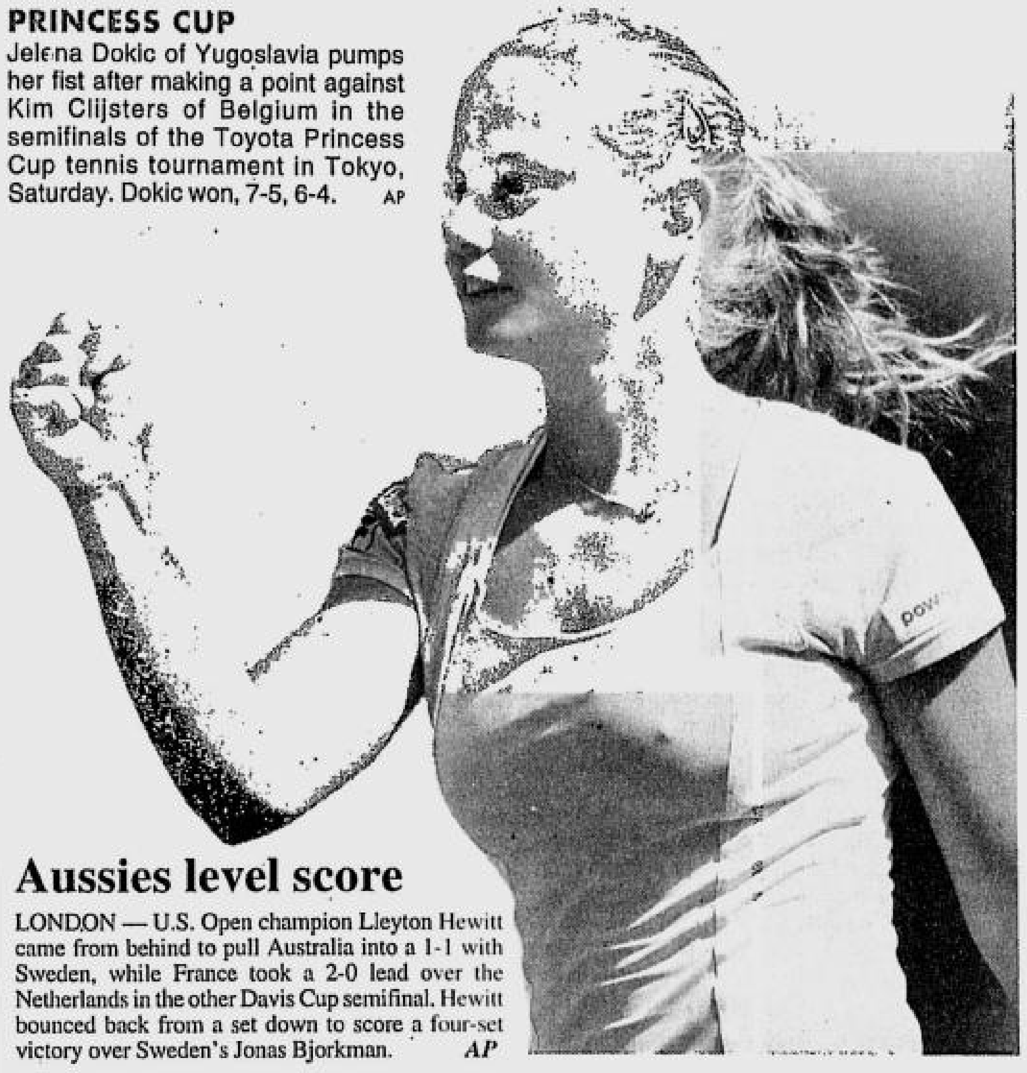
Roe up by 1 shot

VERSAILLES—European Tour joker Mark Roe shrugged off earlier problems from a wasp-sting to set the second-round pace in the Lancome Trophy on Friday with a second successive five-under-par 66.

That lifted the Englishman to 10-under-par 132, one shot ahead of compatriot Anthony Wall and Spaniard Sergio Garcia and two clear of South African Jean Hugo and another Briton Steve Webster. *Reuters*

BASEBALL RESULTS

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Boston 5, Detroit 2; Tampa Bay 7, Toronto 4; Baltimore 7, N.Y. Yankees 6; Texas 9, Anaheim 8; Minnesota 6, Cleveland 2; Chicago White Sox 8, Kansas City 7; Oakland 5, Seattle 1.
NATIONAL LEAGUE: Colorado 11, Montreal 9, 11 innings; St. Louis 9, Pittsburgh 5; Philadelphia 1, Florida 0; N.Y. Mets 3, Atlanta 2; Chicago Cubs 12, Houston 4; Cincinnati 5, Milwaukee 2; San Francisco 2, San Diego 0; Arizona 10, Los Angeles 0. AP



PRINCESS CUP
Jelena Dokic of Yugoslavia pumps her fist after making a point against Kim Clijsters of Belgium in the semifinals of the Toyota Princess Cup tennis tournament in Tokyo, Saturday. Dokic won, 7-5, 6-4. AP

Aussies level score

LONDON — U.S. Open champion Lleyton Hewitt came from behind to pull Australia into a 1-1 with Sweden, while France took a 2-0 lead over the Netherlands in the other Davis Cup semifinal. Hewitt bounced back from a set down to score a four-set victory over Sweden's Jonas Bjorkman. *AP*

Blades seek repeat vs Lakers; Negros takes on Socsargen

By Roy Luarca

GAMES TODAY (San Luis Sports Complex)
3:00 p.m.—Negros vs Socsargen
5:30 p.m.—Batangas vs Laguna

THE FIRST time they met three weeks ago, the LBC Batangas Blades came up on top of the FedEx Laguna Lakers. Can the Blades do a repeat today?

The answer will be known at 5:30 p.m. when the Blades invade the Lakers' home turf—San Luis Sports Complex in Sta. Cruz, Laguna—in the MBA Second Phase. Negros faces Socsargen in the 3 p.m. opener, seeking its third straight win that would assure the Slashers of at least a share of the lead in the eight-team field.

While the Slashers are favored over the Marlins, the Blades are expected to encounter stiff opposition against the Lakers this time.

Though the Blades dumped the Lakers, 95-80, in their first meeting, things have changed since then.

Laguna showed fine form and cohesiveness in routing Socsargen, 115-89, on Wednesday

For another, Batangas will be missing Stephen Antonio, who has flown to the United States to attend to pressing family problems.

Tapped by Batangas coach Nash Racela to fill in the 6-foot-6 Antonio's slot is 6-foot-3 John Bautista, who played for the Blades in 1999.

Shell-Yamaha riders prevail

SHELL-YAMAHA Racing Team finished the National Motocross Super Series 2001 the way it started —with a bang.

Led by veterans Jovie Saulog and Ernie Leongson and Karl Poculan, Shell-Yamaha emerged as the most successful team at the end of the prestigious, seven-part series organized by Hartebeest Entertainment Corp. in cooperation with KIDS Foundation.

Saulog, undoubtedly the country's winningest motocross rider with seven titles, led a rare 1-2-3 finish for Shell-Yamaha riders in the centerpiece pro open category in the seventh and final leg at Eastborough Place in Angono, Rizal on Sept. 16.

Leongson, who made the country proud with his smashing triumph in the Saipan motocross race last month, finished second, while 1999 PSA "Rider of the Year" awardee Jing Leongson came in third to complete the celebration for the team, which is also being supported by No Fear.

The win also proved that Saulog's impressive sixth-leg victory over perennial rival Glen Aguilar on Sept. 2 was not a fluke.

In the pro 125 category, Leongson won over Aguilar and Saulog.

La Salle shoots for 9th finals

GAMES TODAY
(Araneta Coliseum)
11:30 a.m.—FEU vs Adamson (w)
2:00 p.m.—La Salle vs UST (Jrs)
4:00 p.m.—La Salle vs NU (Srs)

By Dennis Eroa

MIGHTY La Salle, whose past and present conquests have made it the UAAP's gauge for excellence, seeks a ninth consecutive trip to the men's basketball finals when it battles title-hungry National University today at the Araneta Coliseum.

While winning titles has become second nature for the Green Archers, the Bulldogs are in unfamiliar territory—they are in their first Final Four after years of futility.

More importantly, National University, the year's biggest revelation, is looking to end a title-drought dating back to 1954, the year Olympian Narciso Bernardo powered the Bulldogs to the crown.

Coach Franz Pumaren expects a tough game for the Green Archers, who have proven they are a cut above the rest by winning the last three championships and making the finals since 1993, the year the University of Santo Tomas Tigers started their four-peat.

Meanwhile, the Ateneo Blue Eaglets beat the Adamson Baby Falcons, 76-64, to make the UAAP junior basketball finals.

Hingis romance

MIAMI—Christopher Calkin, who prosecuted a man who stalked Martina Hingis, admitted in a deposition that he began a romance with the Swiss tennis star two days after Dubravko Rajcevic received a two-year jail sentence. *AFP*

RACING TIPS

AT SANTA ANA BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. Carlo's Charm 2. Big Treasure/Shenzhen Girl 3. Claro Di Ba
Race 2—1. Regal Mischief 2. Talk to Patsy 3. Rose in Bloom 4. Money in Motion
Race 3—1. Favorite Trick 2. Mrs. Big 3. Dixie Dancer
Race 4—1. Americna Jade 2. Gambatte 3. Back to Back 4. Tanging Ikaw 5. Vantage Point
Race 5—1. Mirame 2. Ray Moon 3. May's Magic 4. Denon 5. Hercules
Race 6—1. Walang Hanggan 2. Iron Fist 3. Hingis 4. Timber Nectar
Race 7—1. Annihilator 2. First of All 3. All Powerful 4. Petitioner 5. Miguel's Pet
Race 8—1. Burning Light 2. Another Sam 3. Real Dancer 4. Red Thunder/Eagle Song
Race 9—1. Fairy Princess 2. Bidang Bida 3. Sheer Courage 4. Aim and Fire 5. Chief Navigator
Race 10—1. Patikim 2. American Beauty 3. Mahdi's Gold 4. Ann's Magic 5. Vigor
Race 11—1. Pride of Mandaue 2. Windy City 3. Hot Lips 4. Jessie James
Race 12—1. Pleasant Dream 2. Accommodating 3. Green Leaves 4. Black Force 5. Tayp Ko Yan
Race 13—1. Snake Dancer 2. D Pen Traveller 3. Pride of Dita 4. Princess Helena 5. Kala Star
Race 14—1. Front Page/Heavy Metal 2. American Beauty 3. Knows Love 4. Woman's Task 5. Sweet Justice 6. Search for Gold

GOLFING TRIO
The Riviera Golf and Country Club officials (left to right) Honorio S. Azcueta, exec. VP for operations, AFP-RSBS; John Blanch, general manager and management trainee for the golf course, Eric Gozo hold a putter during a recent gathering. The trio is tasked to strengthen the success of the club. For membership and playing privileges, call 807-7076 and 807-7061 or email johnrgcc@info.com.ph.

It's now Wind Blown vs Sun City

ONE WINNER

Edwin Villanueva

SO it's final, Silver Story won't be around in the P1.5-million Open Championship race on Sept. 30.

The grey galloper is reportedly nursing a hoof injury that's why his handlers have opted to pull him out of the big race to be held at the San Lazaro Hippodrome.

But other than that, it was rumored that Silver Story's connections have earlier frowned on his assigned handicap weight of 54 kilograms.

Nevertheless, it's still going to be a blockbuster of a race because Wind Blown is entered and sans Silver Story, Hermie Esguerra's towering colt would now have to take on the challenge of Jun Almeda's speedy import Sun City.

Sun City is best remembered as the last horse to have beaten Wind Blown and that happened on April 1 at San Lazaro.

That race was held over 1,500 meters but the Sept. 30 contest is going to be disputed over 1,900 meters.

"*Iba nang laban yan. Mahaba. Baka mahirapan na kami,*" said Almeda of Sun City's chances.

Still, experts pick Sun City to carry the march in a scenario that will have Wind Blown ranging right up to him from the outset.

"*Mahirap pabayaan yan si* Sun City. *Ngayon, kung sasabayan ni* Wind Blown *at baka magkaubusan sila, malamang iba ang manalo,*" said Romy dela Peña, a veteran racing buff from Tondo.

And who would be those those who can steal the show in the race?

Many say it could be Sky Hawk, the Lakambini champion who is said to be in tip-top form these days.

Others are mentioning the stayer High Roller, a flop in his two latest runs, but could be at his former razor sharp condition in the Open contest.

Should Wind Blown tackle Sun City in the early going, his 58-kilo handicap weight could be a factor down the stretch. Sun City is carrying 55.5 kilos.

Don't miss the Open Championship race.

* * *

Races return to San Lazaro on Sept. 26 but it's going to be as festive at the Santa Ana Park.

A free concert spiced by a beer drinking contest is slated on that very same date at the parking lot of the Makati race track.

"*Para sa lahat ng karerista yan na laging sumusuporta sa amin,*" said PRCI's Fulton Su.

I wish the Manila Jockey Club had somebody like the accommodating Fulton.

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Ali: Islam is peace

NEW YORK—Muhammad Ali and dozens of entertainers united in an unprecedented telethon to raise money for victims of the World Trade Center and Pentagon terrorist attacks. "I'm here because of the terrible things that happened the other day," Ali said Friday. "I'm a Muslim. I've been a Muslim for 20 years. You know me. I'm a boxer. I've been called the greatest. Islam is peace." *AP*

Sunday SPORTS

AL S. MENDOZA, Editor ▪ EDWIN M. VILLANUEVA, Assistant Editor

Boracay fishing tilt set

THE FIRST Boracay Fish ID Diving Adventure will be held at Lorenzo Resort in cooperation with New Wave Divers and 99.5 RT on Oct. 27-29. Entry fee is P4,900. The event will be featured in "Unlimited Diving" which aired over NBN Channel 4 Fridays 11-11:30 p.m. For details, call (632) 920-8505, 0917-936-8895 or e-mail us at unlimiteddiving@yahoo.com.

GOD-GIVEN, SAYS SALUD

Weigh-in today; Gerry receives surprise gift

BY AL S. MENDOZA
Sports Editor

TOKYO—Gerry Peñalosa will have his official weigh-in today, a day before he climbs the ring to challenge Masamori Tokuyama tomorrow for the World Boxing Council superflyweight crown here.

SALUD

The fight is scheduled for 12 rounds, with the 26-year-old Tokuyama defending the 115-pound crown against Peñalosa, who was the division's champion in 1997 before losing it by split decision in 1998 in Seoul.

The fight referee is Briton Larry O'Connell. The judges are Americans Chuck Williams and Chuck Hassett and Briton John Keane.

The 29-year-old Peñalosa should not find it hard making the 115-pound limit today.

In a happy twist of luck, Penalosa received a surprise package on Friday evening when a respected Japanese boxing official slipped into the hotel and presented the Filipino boxer with a replica of the same scales to be used for today's weigh-in at the Japan Boxing Commission.

"I came here not only as an admirer of Gerry but also as an ally of Philippine boxing," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity. "Please consider this gesture as Japan's goodwill to the Filipino people."

Then the well-groomed man, dressed in resplendent long-sleeved white shirt, blue tie and a matching pair of black pants, hair neatly combed back a la Pat Riley, left as quietly as when he entered the Grand Palace hotel.

He was a friend of Filipino fight promoter Jun Sarreal. Said Sarreal: "Our friendship dates from way back, dating yet to the days when my late Papa (Sarreal) was around and shuttled back and forth from Manila to Tokyo arranging fights."

Dr. Sanirose Orbeta, Peñalosa's dietician who busies herself monitoring the fighter's food and weight from morning till bedtime since the contingent's arrival on Thursday, was overjoyed by the man's generosity.

"What a man," said Rudy Salud, Peñalosa's manager. "He was God-given."

George Alcantara, Salud's confidante of decades, discreetly accompanied the man to the room of Peñalosa to deliver the shining bronze scales.

Peñalosa did his usual morning workout yesterday consisting of a 20-minute jog, calisthenics, loosening up, shadow boxing and sit-ups. He did 69 sit-ups on Friday and 79 yesterday.

After partaking of a breakfast consisting of spaghetti (again!), fruits like banana, grapes, apples and oranges, and a bowl of porridge embellished with egg and fried fish, Peñalosa tipped the scales at 115-1/2 pounds.

"Amazing indeed," said Dodie Boy in Tagalog. "*Walang kaproble-problema*, Sir."

He and fellow brother-trainer Erbing later joined Gerry in a mid-morning nap in a room they share. A "Do Not Disturb" sign hung on the door knob of their hotel room.

The weigh-in will be held at the world-famed Korakuen Hall, site of some of the world title fights of the legendary Filipino champion Flash Elorde in the '60s.

After the weigh-in, a press conference will be held of which a major agenda would be the discussion of the salient rules of tomorrrow's fight at nearby Yokohama Gym.

"By tomorrow (today), the countdown officially begins," said Salud. "Through you, I wish to tell our countrymen that we were never remiss in our job to prepare Gerry for this fight. I beg them to join us in our prayer for victory."

Boxing is a family business

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

TOKYO—Boxing has been their business for nearly five decades now.

Carlos Peñalosa, the father, was a two-time champion.

Dodie Boy Peñalosa, the polio victim, was a two-time champion.

Tomorrow, with God's will, it should be business as usual for the Peñalosas. Gerry Peñalosa should make it easy winning his second boxing title here. He's done it in 1997, when he beat the legendary Hiroshi Kawashima in a classic showdown that is still being talked about with fondness here for its sheer drama.

In that fight, Gerry got hit in the face in the fifth round, wobbling his knees and causing his then manager Wakee Salud to nearly fall from his chair at ringside.

"Primo," said Wakee to Rudy Salud while they were having coffee Friday night at the hotel coffee shop. "*Laking nerbiyos ko noon. Akala ko, tapos ang boksing*." (Cousin, I felt very nervous then as I thought the fight was over.)

But as things turned out, Gerry survived that and went on to score a split decision victory to capture the World Boxing Council superflyweight crown.

Gerry lost it in 1998 and next failed to recapture his crown in 2000, with both fights against South Korean In Joo Cho.

Gerry will again go for it tomorrow, battling this time Masamori Tokuyama, the Japan-born North Korean who defeated Cho twice in two titular fights this year.

"This will be it," Gerry told me yesterday in Tagalog. "This fight is also for my Papa."

Papa is Carlos Peñalosa. Now 66, Carlos won both the lightweight and junior welterweight titles in the Philippines in the '60s.

Dodie Boy, Carlos's second son, is 38. He won both the minimum flyweight and flyweight titles of the world in the '80s.

Apart from Dodie Boy and Gerry, Carlos' three other sons had also been into boxing.

Carlos Jr., 41, was a national boxer in 1980-1981 who left the army as a corporal to become Gerry's chief trainer, with Dodie Boy as his deputy. Both will be in Gerry's corner for tomorrow's WBC title clash.

Carmelo, 36, was a budding pugilist when soldiering intervened; he is now a staff sergeant.

Jonathan, 34, used to be a stylist, fleet-footed prizefighter who now trains amateur boxers in San Carlos City under the wings of Rep. George Ledesma and Mayor Bong Lacson.

Carlos' only daughter, Marissa, is a textile dealer in San Carlos City. Dodie Boy swore she would have been a boxer, too, had women boxing's arrival not been delayed.

Six sons, six boxers. Of the six, though, Gerry, 29, seems to be the luckiest. In only nearly two years that he has been handled by Rudy Salud, Gerry has earned no less than P7 million.

"I have bought a farm in General Santos City and I am truly grateful to Boss Rudy for this," said Gerry. "I intend to build a piggery in that farm."

In the two "step-asides" in which Gerry had to give way twice to title fights, he earned almost P2 million. The first step-aside fee was $15,000 and the second was $20,000.

"I gave it all to Gerry," said Rudy of the fees.

Gerry is doubly grateful with the fact that aside from him, Rudy also takes care of his two brothers' monthly salaries—Dodie Boy and Erbing, his trainers.

"Boxing has been good not only to me but to my entire family as well, from Papa to my brothers," said Gerry. "I guess I'll never leave this sport even when I am retired from active fighting."

Cho next for Peñalosa?

TOKYO—If plans do not miscarry and Gerry Peñalosa goes on to recapture the World Boxing Council superflyweight crown tomorrow, Rudy Salud wants In Joo Cho as Gerry's next foe in his first defense of the 115-pound title.

"I'm not kidding," said Salud, Peñalosa's manager of nearly three years. "I will lure him out of retirement by offering him a crack at the world crown. But then first, let's pray that God will answer our prayers for a Peñalosa victory tomorrow."

Peñalosa goes for the title against Japan-born North Korean Masamori Tokuyama in a scheduled 12-rounder at the Yokohama Gymn, a 17,000 seat modern arena about 1:30 by car from here.

Saying only an "accident" would prevent Peñalosa from beating Tokuyama, Salud said after tomorrow's victory, he would offer Cho "an offer he could not resist."

Cho, the only man to have beaten Peñalosa twice—both by split decision in 1998 and 2000— retired right after his failed bid to dethrone Masamori Tokuyama in May this year.

"That would be a nice move," said Sen. Ramon Revilla of Salud's plan. "Filipinos would love to see Peñalosa avenge his two defeats handed him by Cho."

Peñalosa's other setback since he turned pro in 1989 was inflicted by compatriot Samuel Duran in a bantamweight match in 1995—also on points.

Peñalosa's record is 40-3-1, with 27 knockouts.

"I want Gerry to prove that those two defeats against Cho can be avenged via a third fight," said Salud. "I will stage it in Manila so that our countrymen will see for themselves how Gerry would fare against Cho in front of his countrymen."

When he learned about it, Sen. Ramon Revilla, who joined the RP contingent here upon the invitation of Salud, said: "That should be an interesting fight. I'm sure the entire nation will love to see this fight live in Manila." *Al S. Mendoza*

Sports body orders listing of facilities

THE PHILIPPINE Sports Commission yesterday ordered a nationwide inventory of government-owned sports facilities to determine which of them can still be used for a well-sustained talent development programs

PSC chair Butch Tuason said they need to obtain a final list of the facilities win help them a lot in the pinpointing what particular sports needs to be promoted on a region-per-region basis before the PSC throws in the needed technical support.

"We really need to know if a track oval or swimming pool in big cities like Baguio, San Fernando,Pampanga, Cebù and Iloilo are in condition for us to send good coaches and expand a grassroots development program," Tuason said.

He has designated commissioners Richie Garcia and Weena Lim, who are both busy doing the rounds in key cities for the PSC's Batang Pinoy grassroots program to complete the nationwide inventory and make the necessary recommendations to the board.

"This is all part of our objective to be competitive enough for the next Southeast Asian Games in Vietnam and powerful enough to challenge the big three (Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia) when we host the 2005 meet," he said.

Along the way, Tuason said, both the PSC and POC would be able to select those with big chances of winning a medal in the 2002 Asian Games and 2004 Olympics.

Tuason said that part of the objective is also for them to be able to present to congress a better picture of the current state of the country's sports facilities.

"Simple repair works which hopefully congress can approve need money and we have already started with the costing for the renovation of the athletes quarters at the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex," Tuason said.

The grassroots program is the post-SEAG priority of Tuason since they intend to see as many fresh faces training for the next biennial games as possible.

This was thoroughly discussed by him and First Gentleman Mike Arroyo during their regular meetings while the national athletes campaigned in the Kuala Lumpur SEA Games with the latter promising his unequivocal support.

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SOCCER: World Cup Mix at 8 a.m. (r) on ESPN

English Premier Football League at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. (r), Derby County vs Leeds United AFC at 9 p.m., Newcastle United vs West Ham United at 11 p.m. on ESPN

Spanish Football League at 12 noon (r – 7 p.m.) on Star Sports and at 3 p.m. (r) on ESPN

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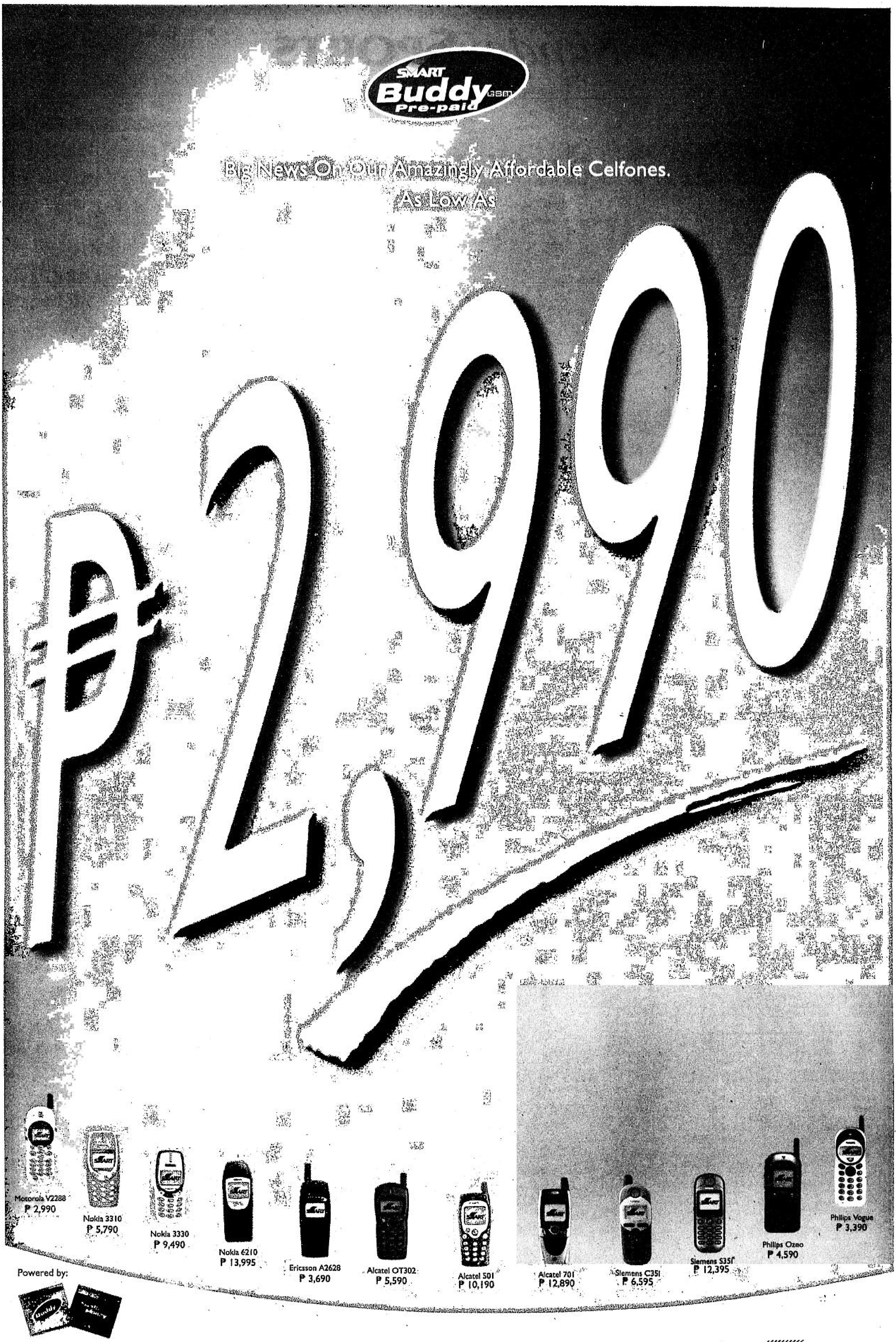
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METRO

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

FOR SALE: 81 Balete Drive, Quezon City. DENNIS SABANGAN

Nora Aunor selling house given by Erap

By Leah Salterio

NORA Aunor's house on Balete Drive in Quezon City, which she admitted was given to her by deposed President Joseph Estrada, is for sale for P35 million.

The actress told the Inquirer she is selling the house and its 600-square-meter lot because it's now too big for her family.

Aunor lives in the house with her younger brother Eddie Boy Villamayor and her sons Kiko and Kenneth.

"We plan to move to a smaller place also in Quezon City after selling the Balete Drive house," Aunor explained. "The house has four huge rooms and it's really too big for us."

Estrada gifted Aunor with the house before the actress campaigned for him nationwide during the 1998 presidential election.

Aunor used to be a staunch Erap ally and was one of the biggest crowd drawers during Estrada's presidential campaign. She was said to have been a big help in winning voters to Estrada's side.

"Even if the house was only given to me, I worked hard for it," Aunor said. "In fact, it's not enough payment for everything that I did for him."

The house at 81 Balete Drive stands on land said to be owned by an Estrada crony, businessman Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco.

The house is near the controversial "Boracay" mansion, said to be owned by former movie actress Laarni Enriquez, one of Estrada's mistresses.

Aunor said it was Cojuangco who convinced her to run for governor in Camarines Sur in the May 14 elections. She lost to Luis Villafuerte.

NORA/ A18

Woman stabs husband, daughter, slashes self

By Blanche S. Rivera

IT WAS a match made in the mental hospital, and it wasn't bound to last.

A former ward at the National Institute for Mental Health (NIMH) flew into a fit of rage yesterday and attacked her husband and their 11-year-old daughter in Pasig City, police said.

At dawn yesterday, Sherly San Ruiz, 52, stabbed her spouse Alexander, 42, and their child Maria Cristina in their house at the Greenpark subdivision in Barangay Mangahan.

The woman, whom police suspect had an attack of her mental disorder, also slashed her wrist in an attempt to kill herself.

The three are now in critical condition at the Sto. Niño de San Antonio General Hospital on Marcos Highway, also in Pasig.

PO1 Ferdinand Clemente said the couple was having a fight around 5:30 a.m. yesterday, shortly before San Ruiz went on a stabbing spree.

After around an hour, a furious San Ruiz took a kitchen knife, went back to their bedroom and stabbed her husband and daughter as both pleaded for their lives.

Alexander suffered wounds in the neck and stomach while Ma. Cristina suffered more serious injuries in the head, back and arms.

Police said Alexander and his wife met at the NIMH in Mandaluyong City in the early 1980s when the woman was confined for mental rehabilitation.

When she was allowed to get out of the institute and resume her normal life, Alexander married her.

Police said the relatives of the stabbing victims are still trying to decide whether to file charges against the woman or bring her back to the NIMH for more treatment.

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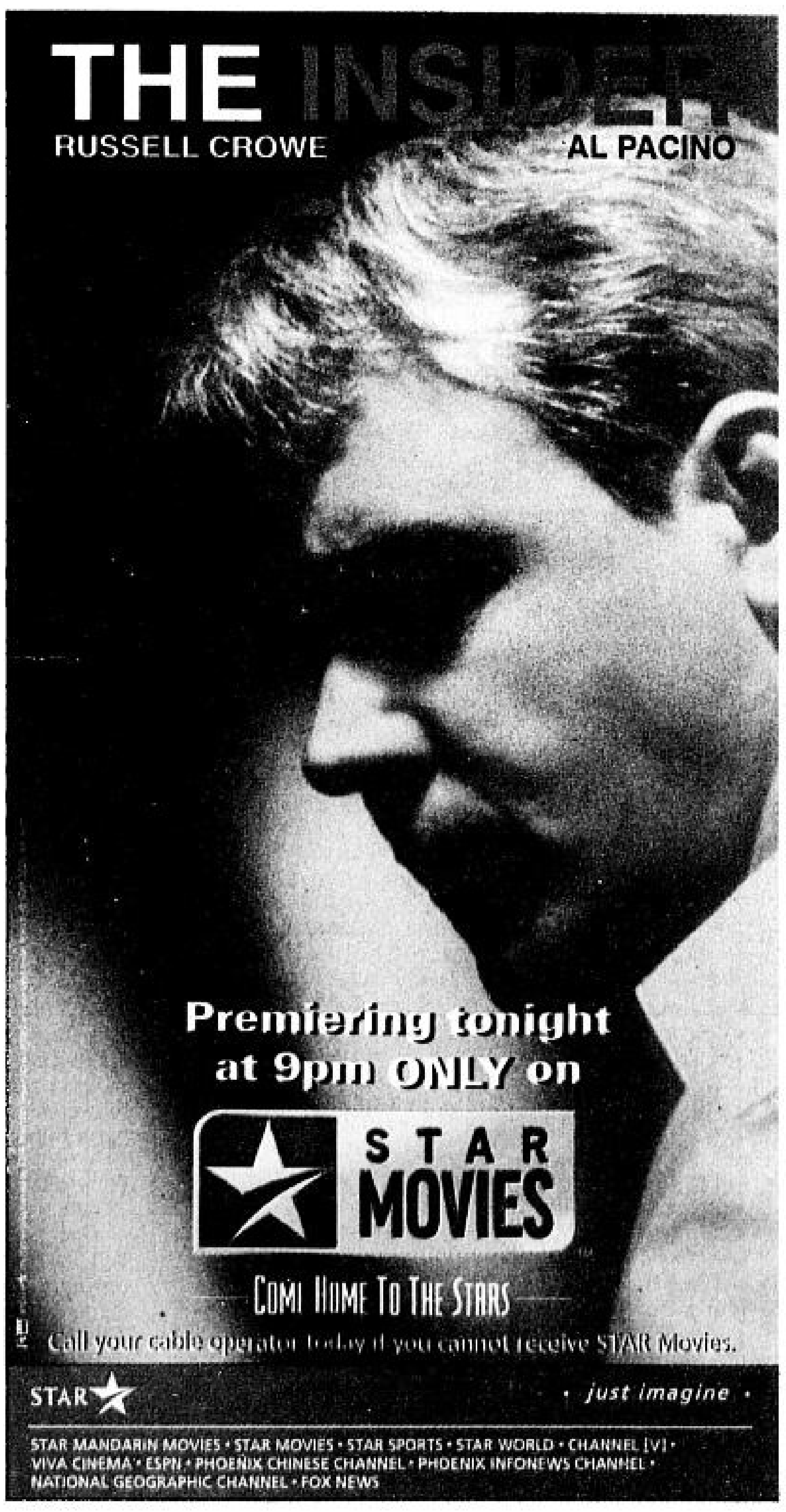

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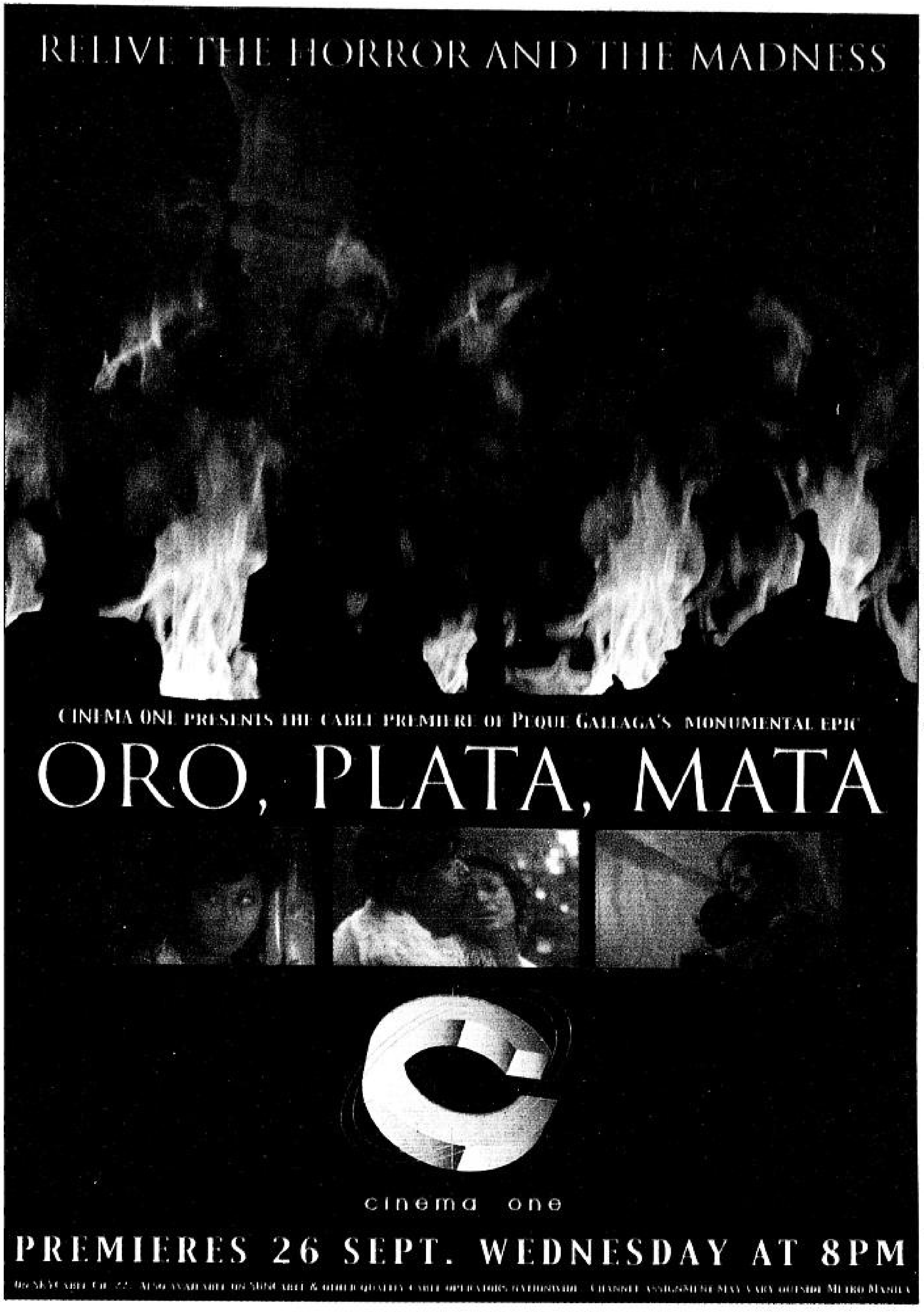

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BOTCHED KIDNAPPING?

ABS-CBN producer hurt in Quezon City snatching

By Philip C. Tubeza

WAS it a botched kidnapping?

Police believe that kidnappers tried but failed to abduct May S. Lacar, a segment producer of Sen. Loren Legarda's anti-crime TV show "Kabalikat" on ABS-CBN Channel 2.

Lacar, 31, of Project 6, Quezon City, was hospitalized after five unidentified men on board a green Nissan Sentra took her bag and almost ran her over near the ABS-CBN compound in Quezon City Friday night, said investigator PO1 John Sales of the Kamuning police station.

While the incident was recorded at the Kamuning station as a simple snatching incident, police suspect that the five men meant to abduct Lacar.

The culprits were able to take Lacar's bag, which contained a Nokia 5110 cell phone, her wallet with P1,000 and credit cards.

PO1 Sales said the victim and her friends, Rodora de la Cerna and Ginny Ocampo, had just eaten at the Congo Grill at the corner of Sgt. Esguerra and Lopez streets and were on their way back to ABS-CBN when the suspects struck about 8:45 p.m. Friday.

One of the suspects on board the Sentra grabbed Lacar's bag, but she was not able to let go of it right away and she was dragged behind the car, police said.

Lacar eventually let go of her bag and the culprits sped away.

The victim's friends took her to the Capitol Medical Center and reported the incident to police.

AUNOR

Nora Aunor selling house given by Erap

(From page A17)

During "Edsa II" last January, Aunor shocked Filipinos when she joined the crowd at the Edsa Shrine and added her voice to the call for Estrada's resignation. She also accused him of battering women and of beating her at least once when they were still having an affair.

Aunor and Estrada had a relationship after they made the movie "Erap is My Guy." They did another movie together, "Bakya Mo Neneng."

Aunor said she is not totally giving up on politics.

"Politics is really dirty," she said of her first bid for public office. "But I learned a lot and I have no regrets."

After her election loss, Aunor is making her first major public appearance in a two-night concert called "The Legend... Live," Oct. 18 and 19 at the Music Museum.

In December 1998, Aunor had a major concert at the Araneta Coliseum. Estrada reportedly financed the P3-million production.

This time, the Music Museum shows will be mounted by Ace Entertainment, with her former talent manager Boy Palma as producer.

Bomb suspects 'undocumented foreigners'

THE TWO Indians linked to Monday's explosion in a supermarket in Antipolo City were found to be undocumented aliens.

Commissioner Andrea Domingo of the Bureau of Immigration and Deportation on Friday issued a certification stating that suspects Penkej Komar and Pankaj Jain were not listed in any of the agency's records.

Komar and Jain were returned to the custody of the Rizal police, who were conducting a deeper investigation of their alleged involvement in the bombing at the Rempson Supermarket in Barangay San Jose, Antipolo on Sept. 16.

Chief Insp. Primitivo Tabujara of the Rizal police criminal investigation division said charges had been filed against the two Indians for their illegal stay in the country.

Komar and Jain are also facing forgery charges for allegedly carrying two plates used in the manufacture of fake peso bills.

Tabujara said both suspects would be detained until police have gathered sufficient evidence clearing them of any participation in the blast. *Agnes Donato*

Family forum

AS PART of this year's celebration of National Family Week, FemNet and Unicef conduct "Steering the Filipino Family Through the Challenges of the New Millennium," a two-day forum on the family to be held Sept. 27-28 at the Conrado Benitez Hall of the Philippine Women's University along Taft Avenue.

Dr. Lynn Wardle, president of the International Society of Family Law, will be the keynote speaker. Other leading authorities from the academe, civic groups and the corporate arena will discuss the family in the context of education, spirituality, media, technology and the economic crisis.

The book "The Asian Family Situation–in the Social, Cultural, Political, Economic and Religious Context" will also be launched.

Registration fee is P800 for meals and kits for two days, with special discount for groups. For inquiries, call Pin at 523-9010.

Bookbinder bound for better life

TALES OF THE CITY

By Cecil G. Garcia

SIX years ago, Rosalie Ganat fled her hometown in Capiz province, leaving behind her widowed mother and siblings and a sad life. With a neighbor, she came to Manila in search of a better life. She was 15.

The third of five children, Ganat decided to leave home because she was very unhappy in the province. "I was often mistreated by my mother," she says now. "I felt she did not love me."

She says her mother seemed indifferent and never paid her any attention, especially after Ganat's father died when she was only 6.

She says it was at that tender age that she was first sexually abused by a distant relative. The abuse went on until she turned 12.

"I tried telling my mother, but she would not listen," Ganat recalls. "If my own mother did not care, I could not imagine why other people would."

So she kept her plight a secret, never confiding in anyone, never sharing her pain. But what hurt her most, she says, was her mother's indifference. She felt escape was her only recourse.

No regrets

Now 21, Ganat looks back and says she has no regrets about coming to the city. She thinks she has found what she was looking for. She has a stable job that gives her more than sufficient income.

Now financially independent, Ganat sends support to her mother with whom she has since reconciled, and is only too happy to be able to pay for the schooling of her younger siblings.

Ganat is a bookbinder at MSA Publishing, a job that came her way unexpectedly. She's amazed that she can earn as much as P4,500 a week, an amount she never dared to dream of. "I did not think my life would ever change," she says.

"My work is to gather and put the book pages together," she says. "I can do about 800 books a day."

For a long time after she arrived in Manila, it seemed her childhood would continue.

"My purpose was to work as an all-around household help," says Ganat who was in first year high school when she stopped studying. Sure enough, immediately after her arrival, she found work with an old woman. "She was kind to me."

But she left two months later when her employer's adopted son tried to abuse her.

Frightened

Discouraged, Ganat joined her elder sister who was living with her husband and children in Cavite. "I worked as a laundrywoman for a family for four months."

Then she worked in a canteen in Novaliches. Everything was going well until another incident of sexual abuse occurred.

"I was scared and I decided to take a break," she says. She tried to find comfort with another sister who was then living in Mandaluyong. But whatever comfort or respite she found there turned out to be short-lived. Ganat left when a relative of her brother-in-law started making advances on her. "I went back to my sister in Cavite," she says.

But because she wanted to earn a living, Ganat was soon working again as household help for a family in Sta. Mesa. She stayed for two years.

Fate then led the young girl to Pasig where she found another job as household help for another family. Once again things ended badly when her employer's children accused her of petty theft.

She found a similar job in Sta. Cruz. "I lasted more than a month," she says.

Ganat was tired and deeply affected by her persistent ordeal. "I was beginning to ask myself why those things were happening to me."

She felt she had been singled out by destiny. "All I wanted was to make something of myself so that I could prove to my mother that I was not as unworthy as she had made me believe."

New world

Ganat was about to give up when a neighbor in Sta. Cruz informed her that the publishing house where the neighbor was working was in need of a girl they could train as bookbinder. Ganat might not have known it but it was the chance of a lifetime that she unwittingly grabbed.

GANAT

EDWIN BACASMAS

"This was in June 2000," she recalls. "On June 12, I started with my new job."

Her new job opened up a new life and a brand-new world for Ganat. Aside from the steady income, she feels she has found a safe place where nothing and no one can harm her.

Her relationship with her employers, according to Ganat, goes beyond that of boss-employee. "The owners of the publishing company are very good to me," she says. "From the beginning they've treated me like their own daughter."

And Ganat considers them the parents whose presence in her life she has never really felt. To show her trust and confidence in them, she has told them everything that has happened to her. "I have no secrets from them," she says.

Ganat, who works seven days a week (she does overtime), lives next door to her employers. "They invited me to stay in the annex of their house for free because of its nearness to our workplace and also because they believe I would feel safer with them so close by."

Though she has made friends, Ganat remains wary, especially of men, and confides that she doesn't entertain suitors. She says she's not sure if she wants to get married, but she'd like to have children.

Her fondest dream is to go back to school and to be a teacher, preferably to young children.

Beyond anger

Ganat has managed to rise above bitterness and anger, conceding that she has forgiven everyone who hurt her in the past, including her mother who now depends on her financially and in other ways as well.

"I don't believe in getting even, in seeking revenge," she declares. "Besides, my mother has changed. I think she regrets how she treated me when I was a child."

But she says that had her mother treated her differently, had things been better, she might not have been as strongly motivated to achieve and to succeed. In her silent suffering, the one thing that kept her going was the desire to prove herself worthy in her mother's eyes.

This helped her cope and made the unbearable somehow bearable. "Many times in the past I thought of killing myself. I'm glad I did not give in to despair."

Now Ganat is certain that in time she will get over the past completely, though it would be impossible to erase the scars.

"The past is over," she says. She turned a new leaf the day she started working as a bookbinder.

She continues to have faith in the basic goodness of man. Despite her pain-filled past, she says: "*Maganda ang buhay, makulay at makahulugan. Hindi ito dapat sayangin sa hindi mahahalagang bagay* (Life is beautiful, it's full of color and meaning. It shouldn't be wasted on unimportant things)."

Three men killed in Manila

By Jerome Aning

A TRAVEL agency messenger, a meat vendor and a teenage bakery helper were stabbed dead in three incidents Friday night and yesterday morning, according to police.

Police said Ronnie Noche, 21, single, a messenger of the Segye Travel Corp. and a resident of Pildera I, Pasay City, tried to resist the holdup men and to protect his two female companions in Malate, Manila Friday night.

Noche and his fellow employees, Arlyn Garcia and Ednalyn Nepomuceno, were walking along Remedios Street toward Taft Avenue when two men blocked their path and poked daggers at them at 7:45 p.m. Friday.

One of the men grabbed Noche's jewelry, wallet, 3210 Nokia cell phone and an envelope containing plane tickets and money that he was to deliver the next day.

SPO1 Ismael de la Cruz said the messenger tried to resist and to prevent the suspects from robbing his companions. But one of the suspects stepped behind him and stabbed him in the neck.

Garcia and Nepomuceno brought Noche to the Philippine General Hospital, but he was declared dead on arrival.

Also on Friday, a 54-year-old meat vendor was stabbed dead for a still undetermined reason around 10 p.m. in Tondo.

Jaime Espino, married and a resident of Vitas Street, had several stab wounds when he was brought to the Mary Johnston Hospital by one Darwin Loderno.

In San Miguel, Manila, a 17-year-old bakery helper was stabbed to death, also for unknown reason, by seven other youths around 1 a.m. yesterday.

Jomar Librino, a stay-in helper at Don King Bakery on C. Palanca Street and a native of Catubig, Northern Samar, was stabbed many times, police said. He died at 1:35 a.m. at the Ospital ng Sampaloc.

SPO1 Tuazon said Librino and his friends Noriel Ortiz and one identified only Alfred were walking along Vicente Cruz Street when they came across the seven other youths.

4 men arrested in P1M shabu buy-bust trap

By Michael Lim Ubac

NATIONAL Bureau of Investigation agents arrested four men and seized a kilo of shabu worth P1 million in a buy-bust operation in Quiapo.

NBI Deputy Director Lolito V. Utitco identified the suspects as Kongan Dalping, 30; Toks Dalping, 32; Fajzal Makaraya, 24; and Badria Casim, 46.

Utitco said the four men, natives of Maguindanao but currently living in Quiapo, Manila, were arrested on Sept. 15 by a team from the NBI Narcotics Division under lawyer Ruel Lasala.

Lasala said the group distributed shabu in Metro Manila, Laguna, Batangas and Cavite. A certain Allan Ong of Binondo, Manila allegedly supplied the illegal drugs.

But the four suspects protested their innocence when Utitco presented them to reporters Friday morning. Drug charges were filed against them at the Manila City prosecutor's office.

Utitco said the bureau received information that the leader of the group, Dalping alias "Akong," was looking for someone who would buy a kilo of shabu (not high-grade) for P1 million. The deputy director claimed the suspect was even willing to sell it for as low as P600,000.

"At 10 p.m. of the same day, a deal was struck in the group's lair on Globo de Oro Street, Quiapo in front of the Muslim mosque," Lasala said. "While the agent was in his car, Kongan and Toks Dalping approached (the car) and demanded to see the money."

After seeing the money, Toks alighted from the car and called up Casim. Casim handed to Toks a plastic bag containing a kilo of shabu in plastic sachets.

Inquirer cleared of libel in looting story

By Michael Lim Ubac

THE COURT of Appeals has cleared the INQUIRER of any criminal liability in connection with a libel suit filed in 1998 by a lawyer who said his reputation was sullied by a story on the looting of a fashion designer's penthouse in Malate, Manila.

In a decision last month, the 12th division of the appellate court upheld the ruling of the Department of Justice (DOJ) in dismissing the libel complaint for lack of merit.

The decision was penned by CA Associate Justice Martin Villarama Jr. Associate Justices Conrado Vasquez Jr. and Sergio Pestano concurred.

After denying due course to the petition, the CA affirmed the DOJ resolutions of Oct. 11, 2000 and Jan. 12, 2001, which both dismissed the libel complaint filed by lawyer Vicente Sison and Victoria Sison.

Named respondents in the complaint were INQUIRER publisher Isagani Yambot, editor in chief Letty Jimenez-Magsanoc and deskperson Marge Enriquez of the Lifestyle Section.

The Sisons lodged two separate complaints-affidavits for libel on March 2, 1998. The affidavits recited similar facts.

The Sisons said the story "Looting at the penthouse," written by Enriquez and published on Feb. 20, 1998 in the Lifestyle section, was "malicious."

The story chronicled how precious items, such as paintings and personal effects, were lost in the ransacked penthouse of former fashion designer Ramon Bilbao while he was on vacation.

The penthouse is located at the Angela Apartments in Malate.

According to the CA decision, the Sisons claimed that the story was libelous because it imputed to them the commission of immoral and criminal acts.

They said the story "clearly insinuated and unmistakably conveyed the impression that they are buying and selling or dealing with stolen goods or antiques, the inference being that the goods stolen from the victim's penthouse, i. e., paintings, were brought to the complainant's house in White Plains."

However, the Quezon City prosecutor's office, through assistant city prosecutor Josephus H. Asis, dismissed the complaints because of insufficient evidence on Aug. 11 of the same year.

The Sisons filed a motion for reconsideration, which was denied on Nov. 10, 1998 by assistant city prosecutor Conrado Refuereo and city prosecutor Claro Arellano.

The Sisons brought their complaints to the Office of the Secretarty of Justice through a petition for review on Jan. 13, 1999.

However, on Oct. 11, 2000, Justice Undersecretary Regis Puno penned for the justice secretary a resolution denying the petition for review. Last Jan. 12, the DOJ junked a motion for reconsideration filed by the Sisons.

The CA said the DOJ was right when it dismissed the complaints in view of the absence of malice, one of the five elements of libel.

"Our reading of the article in question indicates nothing that would place the questioned article within the contemplation of Article 353 of the Revised Penal Code," the CA said, quoting the DOJ ruling. "Firstly, the words and phrases employed therein are not defamatory since they fall short of imputation that the complainants are guilty of certain offenses."

The DOJ found that the story was a mere factual narration of circumstances, according to the CA.

"A review of the evidence shows that the looting incident was fully supported by public documents," the DOJ said.

2 men nabbed for trying to gyp BSP gov

By Philip C. Tubeza

POLICE arrested two men who tried to pass themselves off as staff members of Rep. Reynaldo Calalay so they could swindle Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Gov. Rafael Buenaventura.

Roberto Garcia, 32, alias Nestor Burgonio, and Gregorio Trinidad, 33, both of P. Domingo Street, Makati City, were arrested when they allegedly tried to solicit P10,000 from Buenaventura, said investigator PO3 Fernando Tariga of the Baler police station.

Tariga said the two men had tricked other public figures in the past, but they were never charged since all their victims forgave them.

This time, the police caught the duo red-handed in an entrapment operation on Wednesday.

Police allegedly seized from the suspects a sachet of shabu and P1,000 in marked money.

PO3 Tariga said the suspects called up Buenaventura's office, introduced themselves as members of Calalay's staff and tried to solicit P10,000. The suspects claimed the money was intended for a project of the congressman.

But Buenaventura's staff members became suspicious and contacted the office of Calalay, an advocate of gay rights. It was then they discovered the suspects' ruse.

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2	ORIGINAL SIN
3	ENEMY AT THE GATES
4	PRINCESS DIARIES
5	RUSH HOUR 2
6	PRINCESS DIARIES
7	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
8	PUKYUTAN
9	PRINCESS DIARIES
10	CROCODILE 2
11	SCARY MOVIE 2
12	BANYO QUEEN

MEGAMALL 6331801 • 6329401

1	RUSH HOUR 2
2	A.I.
3	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
4	PRINCESS DIARIES
5	ORIGINAL SIN
6	ENEMY AT THE GATES
7	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
8	SCARY MOVIE 2
9	BANYO QUEEN
10	PRINCESS DIARIES
11	PUKYUTAN
12	A KNIGHT'S TALE

TUTUBAN 2514302

1	PRINCESS DIARIES
2	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
3	PUKYUTAN
4	BANYO QUEEN

CITY NORTH EDSA 9295452

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	PRINCESS DIARIES
3	PUKYUTAN
4	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
5	ENEMY AT THE GATES
6	ORIGINAL SIN
7	PRINCESS DIARIES
8	KNIGHT'S TALE
9	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
10	RUSH HOUR 2
11	SCARY MOVIE 2
12	A.I.

SOUTHMALL 8066888

1	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
2	KNIGHT'S TALE
3	CLOSED
4	ORIGINAL SIN
5	A.I.
6	ENEMY AT THE GATES
7	BANYO QUEEN
8	PRINCESS DIARIES
9	SCARY MOVIE 2
10	PUKYUTAN

GUADALUPE COMM'L 8810905

1	PUKYUTAN
2	BANYO QUEEN
3	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO

CEBU 2313676

1	RUSH HOUR 2
2	CRAZY BEAUTIFUL
3	BURLESK QUEEN
4	A.I
5	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
6	BANYO QUEEN
7	SCARY MOVIE 2

ILOILO 3209422

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	CLOSED
3	RUSH HOUR-2
4	SCARY MOVIE 2
5	PUKYUTAN
6	ENEMY AT THE GATES
7	CLOSED
8	A.I.

PAMPANGA 7128015

1	A.I.
2	KNIGHT'S TALE
3	ENEMY AT THE GATES
4	PUKYUTAN
5	MANO MANO 2
6	BANYO QUEEN

SUCAT 8204975

1	KNIGHT'S TALE
2	ORIGINAL SIN
3	PRINCESS DIARIES
4	BANYO QUEEN

DAVAO

1
2
3
4
5
6

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1	ORIGINAL SIN
2	PRINCESS DIARIES
3	SCARY MOVIE 2
4	ENEMY AT THE GATES

GLORIETTA 4

1	A KNIGHT'S TALE — in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
2	PRINCESS DIARIES — in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3	PRINCESS DIARIES THX — in DSD/SDDS/DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4	THE INVISIBLE CIRCUS (Phil. Premiere) — in DTS DIGITAL SOUND — Art Film
5	ENEMY AT THE GATES — in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
6	ORIGINAL SIN — in DTS/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
7	RUSH HOUR 2 — in DTS DIGITAL SOUND

GREENBELT

1	A KNIGHT'S TALE — in DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
2	PRINCESS DIARIES — in SONY DYNAMIC DIGITAL SOUND
3	ORIGINAL SIN — in DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
4	MARTIN NIEVERA LIVE! SEPT. 27,28 & 29–8PM — Onstage

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

1	PRINCESS DIARIES THX — in DSD/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
2	ORIGINAL SIN — in DSD DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3	A KNIGHT'S TALE — in DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4	ENEMY AT THE GATES — in DTS DIGITAL SOUND
5	PRINCESS DIARIES — in DTS DIGITAL SOUND

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MOVIE GUIDE

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Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

1 (SDDS)	A KNIGHT'S TALE
2 (SDDS)	ORIGINAL SIN
3 (DTS)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
4 GOLD (DTS)	A.I.
5 GOLD (DOLBY)	PRINCESS DIARIES
6 GOLD (SDDS)	ORIGNAL SIN
7 GOLD (DOLBY)	PRINCESS DIARIES
8 ([illegible])	BANYO QUEEN
9 ([illegible])	RUSH HOUR 2
10 ([illegible])	SCARY MOVIE 2

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486

1	
2	
3 (DTS)	
4	BANYO QUEEN
5	BURLESK QUEEN
6 (DTS)	
Golden Pearl THX	

Masagana CINEMAX 1-2 & 3
(Kalaw) tel 536.4315

1 (DOLBY)	ORIGINAL SIN
2 (DTS)	
3	BURLESK QUEEN

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 831.6603

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	PRINCESS DIARIES
3	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO

starmall Movies
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1	ORIGINAL SIN
2	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
3	PUKYUTAN
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	PRINCESS DIARIES
5	MANO-MANO

Metropolis
(Alabang) tel 543.4001

1	PRINCESS DIARIES
2	BURLESK QUEEN
3	ORIGINAL SIN
4	BANYO QUEEN
5	RESERVE
6	RESERVE
7	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
8	PUKYUTAN

PREMIERE CINEMA THX
(Makati City) Tel. 7053152 - 55

PRINCESS DIARIES

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1	CATS & DOGS
2	RADYO

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL, INC.
tel 930.9515

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	BURLESK QUEEN
3	PUKYUTAN

Spring
(Libertad, Pasay City) tel 831.7864

1	BURLESK QUEEN
A	PUKYUTAN

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376

1	PRINCESS DIARIES
2	RESERVE
3	MANO MANO 2
4	

GOTESCO CINEMA

City
(Manila) tel 734.8588

1 (DOLBY)	PRINCESS DIARIES
2	RESERVE
3	RESERVE
4	PUKYUTAN
5	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
6	BANYO QUEEN
7 (DTS)	ORIGINAL SIN
8 (SDDS)	KNIGHT'S TALE
9 (DOLBY)	SCARY MOVIE 2

Caloocan
tel 362.3508

2	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO

Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 364.3781

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
3	MANO MANO 2
4 (SDDS)	KNIGHT'S TALE
5	PUKYUTAN
6 (DOLBY)	PRINCESS DIARIES
7 (DTS)	ORIGINAL SIN
8	SCARY MOVIE
9	BAKIT DI ...

Commonwealth
tel 951.0083

1 (DTS)	ORIGINAL SIN
2	BANYO QUEEN
3	PUKYUTAN
4	MANO MANO 2
5 (SDDS)	KNIGHT'S TALE
6	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
7 (DOLBY)	PRINCESS DIARIES
8	BAKIT DI ...

Ortigas
tel 656.6795

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
3 (DTS)	ORIGINAL SIN
4	PUKYUTAN
5 (SDDS)	PRINCESS DIARIES

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470

1	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO

Sampaguita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888

1	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724

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1	PUKYUTAN
2	PRINCESS DIARIES
3	ORIGINAL SIN
4	

Prima
(Pasig) tel 641.1215

3	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
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tel 733.4238

1 (DOLBY)	ORIGINAL SIN
2	PRINCESS DIARIES
3	PUKYUTAN
4	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
5	BANYO QUEEN

New Divisoria Mall
DIVISORIA CINEMA
tel 244.4619

1	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
2	PUKYUTAN
3	ORIGINAL SIN
4	RESERVE
5	RESERVE
6	BURLESK QUEEN

Baclaran LRT
LRT CINEMA
tel 512.0115

1 (DOLBY)	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
2	PUKYUTAN
3	RESERVE

Berma
tel 879-2029 or 30

1	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
2	BANYO QUEEN

CitiMall
(Parañaque) tel 820.7269

1	RESERVED
2	ORIGINAL SIN
3	RESERVED
4	

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198

1	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
2	BANYO QUEEN
3 (DTS)	PRINCESS DIARIES

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1	ORIGINAL SIN
2 (DTS)	BANYO QUEEN
3 (DOLBY)	PRINCESS DIARIES
4	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) Tel. (049) 411-1146

1	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
2 (DOLBY)	PRINCESS DIARIES
3 (DTS)	ORIGINAL SIN
4	BANYO QUEEN

Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1	ANIMAL
2	A.I.
3	SOON TO OPEN
4	SOON TO OPEN

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS)	ORIGINAL SIN
2	RESERVED
3	BANYO QUEEN
4 (DTS)	BORLESK QUEEN

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY)	PRINCESS DIARIES
2	ORIGINAL SIN
3 (DTS)	PUKYUTAN
4	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
5	MANO MANO 2

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1	PRINCESS DIARIES
2	PUKYUTAN
3	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 536.5101

1	PRINCESS DIARIES
2	ORIGINAL SIN
3	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO

Olivarez Tagaytay
tel (046) 413.0311

1	PAREHAS ANG LABAN
2	CROCODILE
3	VENUS

Morales Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.9736

1	MANO MANO 2
2	ORIGINAL SIN
3	BANYO QUEEN

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

1 (DTS)	PUKYUTAN
2 (TS)	RESERVE

Fourstep
(Cavite) tel (046) 416.2385

1	PUKYUTAN

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

1	SCREAM... FRIDAY 13TH
2	PUKYUTAN
3	MANO MANO 2

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1	CROCODILE 2
2	KNIGHT'S TALE
3	BANYO QUEEN
4	MANO MANO 2

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

1 (DOLBY EX)	KNIGHT'S TALE
2	MANO MANO 2
3	BANYO QUEEN
4 (DTS ES)	ENEMY AT THE GATES

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For reservations, call: 751-2010 to 13

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1 THX	PRINCESS DIARIES
2	PRINCESS DIARIES
3	ENEMY AT THE GATES
4	SCARY MOVIE 2
5	ORIGINAL SIN
6	A KNIGHT'S TALE
7	RUSH HOUR 2
8	A.I.
9	BANYO QUEEN
10	ORIGINAL SIN

ERMITA 536-7809 TO 12

1	PRINCESS DIARIES
2	SCARY MOVIE 2
3	A KNIGHT'S TALE
4	RUSH HOUR 2
5	BANYO QUEEN
6	ORIGINAL SIN
7	ENEMY AT THE GATES

NOVALICHES 935-3229 TO 31

1	PUKYUTAN
2	PRINCESS DIARIES
3	RESERVE
4	PRINCESS DIARIES
5	A KNIGHT'S TALE
6	BANYO QUEEN
7	ORIGINAL SIN
8	ENEMY AT THE GATES

IMUS (046) 471-8188

1	A KNIGHT'S TALE
2	SCARY MOVIE 2
3	BANYO QUEEN
4	ORIGINAL SIN
5	PRINCESS DIARIES
6	PUKYUTAN

BACOLOD (034) 441-0453

1	RUSH HOUR 2
2	A.I.
3	SCARY MOVIE 2
4	CRAZY/BEAUTIFUL
5	SCREAM... FRIDAY 13TH
6	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN

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ALI MALL CINEPLEX-1	BANYO QUEEN
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	PRINCESS DIARIES
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	ORIGINAL SIN
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	SCARY MOVIE 2
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7 (DOLBY)	A KNIGHT'S TALE
FARMERS PLAZA-1 (DOLBY)	PUKYUTAN
FARMERS PLAZA-2 (DOLBY)	ORIGINAL SIN
FIESTA CARNIVAL	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
NEW FRONTIER	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	PANINDA/TEASER
ODEON	ORIGINAL SIN
ODEON-2	BORLESK QUEEN
ROBEN	PUKYUTAN
TANDEM-1	SEX MEDUSA
TANDEM-2	SEX EDUCATION
TIMES	DUNGEON... / DRIVER
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	CLOSED
ACT-4	CLOSED
CORONET-2	ORIGINAL SIN
QUEZON-1	PUKYUTAN
REMAR	PUKYUTAN
REMAR-2	BURLESK QUEEN
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	BANYO QUEEN
B	MANO MANO 2
C	
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-7[illegible] / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	ORIGINAL SIN
CINEMA-2	PRINCESS DIARIES
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
CINEMA-2	MANO MANO 2
CINEMA-3	PUKYUTAN
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	RUSH HOUR 2
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	PRINCESS DIARIES
CINEMA-6	A.I.
CINEMA-7	BURLESK QUEEN
CINEMA-8	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	PRINCESS DIARIES
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	A KNIGHT'S TALE
CINEMA-12	SCARY MOVIE 2
CINEMA-14	ORIGINAL SIN
CINEMA-15	BANYO QUEEN
LORES	
CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-3	CLOSED
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	PRINCESS DIARIES
CINEMA-2	A KNIGHT'S TALE
CINEMA-3	PRINCESS DIARIES
CINEMA-4	ORIGINAL SIN
CINEMA-5	ENEMY AT THE GATES
CINEMA-6	PRINCESS DIARIES
UNIWIDE METROMALL	
(LAS PIÑAS)	
CINEMA-1	SOON TO OPEN
CINEMA-2	SOON TO OPEN
CINEMA-4	SOON TO OPEN
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARAÑAQUE)	
CINEMA-1	THE STRANGER
CINEMA-2	AMBISYOSA
CINEMA-4	THALIA

Air Supply endures while other stars rise and fall

(From page A21)

song's history. "It was originally sung in Hindi, however, so we re-recorded it in English, brought Mehnaz to Utah where we were recording the album, and she did a fantastic job."

The first collaborative effort of Russell and Graham was the 1975 Australian production of the classic rock opera "Jesus Christ Superstar."

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'Osang . . .

(From page A20)

remains grounded. "If I know that I can do justice to the role, I accept it. But I'm aware that I still have a lot to prove. I'm just lucky to be getting all the good breaks. So far, everything that I do has turned out to be successful."

Titillating from a distance

FOR nearly a year now, sexy actress **Priscilla Almeda** has been based in New York living a life away from the limelight as an expectant mom.

But even if she's thousands of miles away, Priscilla will titillate moviegoers in her latest starrer, "Huwag Kang Kikibo," opposite **Raymond Bagatsing.**

The movie is about a lost city girl who finds peace and fulfillment in a remote village in the arms of a modern-day cult leader.

Priscilla's role as Carol hews closely to real life. Like her screen character, Priscilla was confused and devastated when she learned she was adopted. She became a party girl and had her share of sex and drugs, only to wake up in tears, bitter and frustrated.

Raymond plays Dimas, the charismatic religious leader with a weakness for beautiful young women. When seducing them, his line is "*Huwag kang kikibo . . . Diyos ang hihipo.*"

Priscilla's absence from local show biz allowed her to take a trip from New York to Canada, where she met for the first time her biological mother, although they had talked several times on the phone.

"Huwag Kang Kikibo" is directed by **Gil Portes,** who made her deliver what she feels is the best performance of her life.

Produced by Teamwork Productions, "Huwag Kang Kikibo" is based on the story and screenplay by **Ricky Lee** and Portes.

Priscilla goes naked in her love scenes with Bagatsing and **Leandro Baldemor,** who plays her ex-boyfriend.

'Osang made me feel like a beginner in our sex scenes'

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

WHEN **Diether Ocampo** was offered the script of "La Vida Rosa," where he would play opposite **Rosanna Roces**, he didn't have second thoughts about accepting the project even if it required him to bare his derriere on the big screen.

For Diether, starring with Osang in a movie directed by **Chito Roño** is a high in his acting career.

Audiences may see "La Vida Rosa" as a sexy project for Diether, who exposes his butt twice in the movie. But the 25-year-old actor believes it's important for him to play more mature roles and establish himself as a serious actor.

"This is my most daring and most mature role to date," he allows. "It's different and totally unconventional. The movie has an element of sensuality. But it's not exploiting me."

Diether is aware that some people look at him more as a sex object than as a good actor.

"I don't really mind," he maintains, "although sometimes I also get conscious especially when others stare at me.

"I also worked hard to achieve this body. But when people look at me from my face down to my waistline, they make me feel like I'm a piece of meat."

Diether has a buff body, square jaw and strong screen presence, but he prefers to downplay these attributes.

"My biggest advantage is that I can shift from romantic roles to young adult roles without sacrificing my image," Diether says. "My real focus is getting into the character.

"When I got the 'La Vida Rosa' script and I was told about the butt exposures, I didn't think twice. Any actor would do it. I had no questions. I trust my director so much. Everything, including the love scenes, was laid out before me by *Direk* Chito from the first shooting day."

In "La Vida Rosa," Diether figures in the most passionate love scenes he has ever done in his career.

"Osang knew how to maneuver the love scenes," Diether shares. "I looked like a beginner with her. She knows how to handle her leading man even in torrid scenes. She was very considerate.

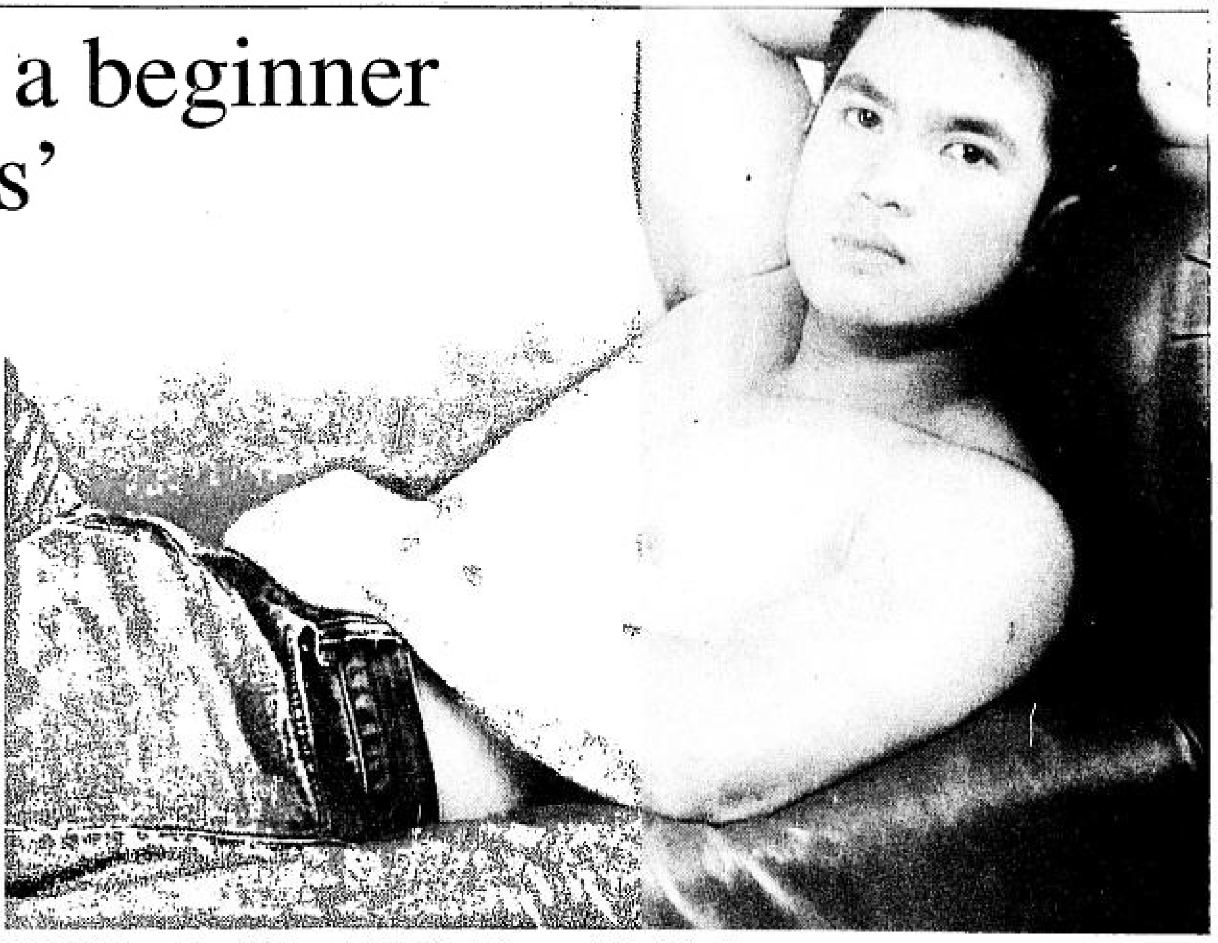
"I was a bit embarrassed in one scene because I got turned on and I think Osang noticed it. Osang is sexually stimulating. The sight of her is more than enough to excite any guy. She has no pretenses. She even walks naked and is so casual about it."

"La Vida Rosa" tells how two lovers drift from one petty crime to another and face a bigger risk each time, while at the same time hoping for a bright future. The film is a local version of the '60s Hollywood movie, "Bonnie and Clyde," which starred **Warren Beatty** and **Faye Dunaway.**

"La Vida Rosa" was given an R-18 rating without cuts by the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board (MTRCB).

Despite his career highs, Diether

OSANG/ A19



TURN-ON turned on, Diether admits he finds Rosanna "stimulating."

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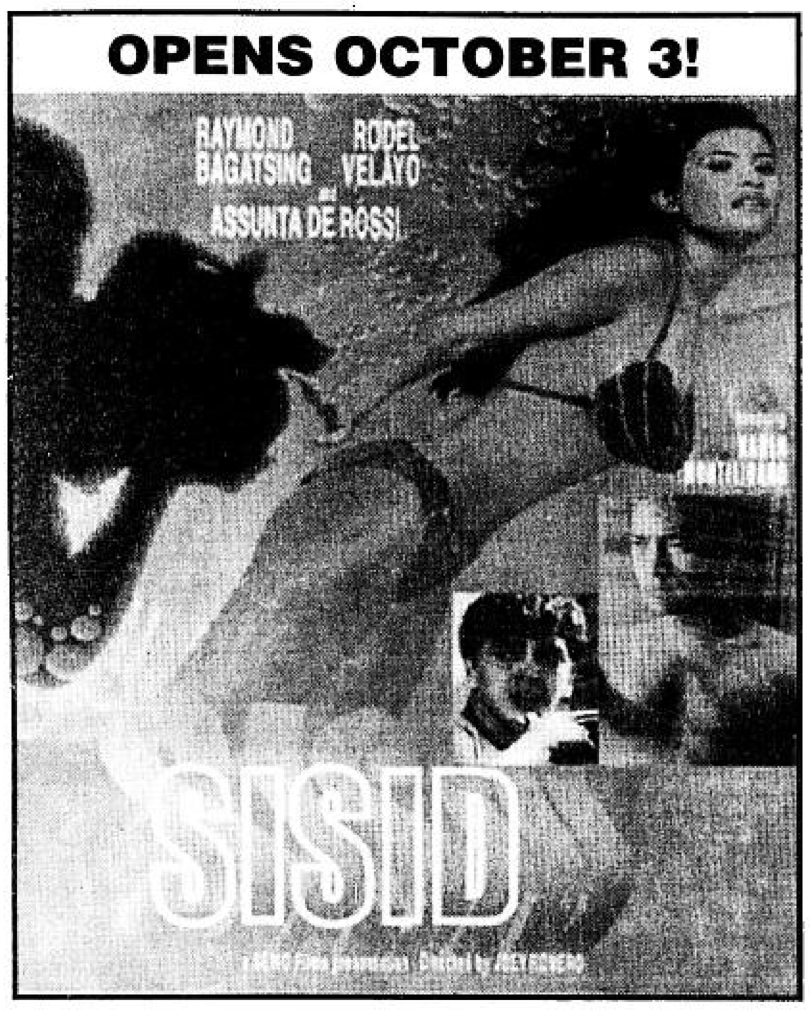
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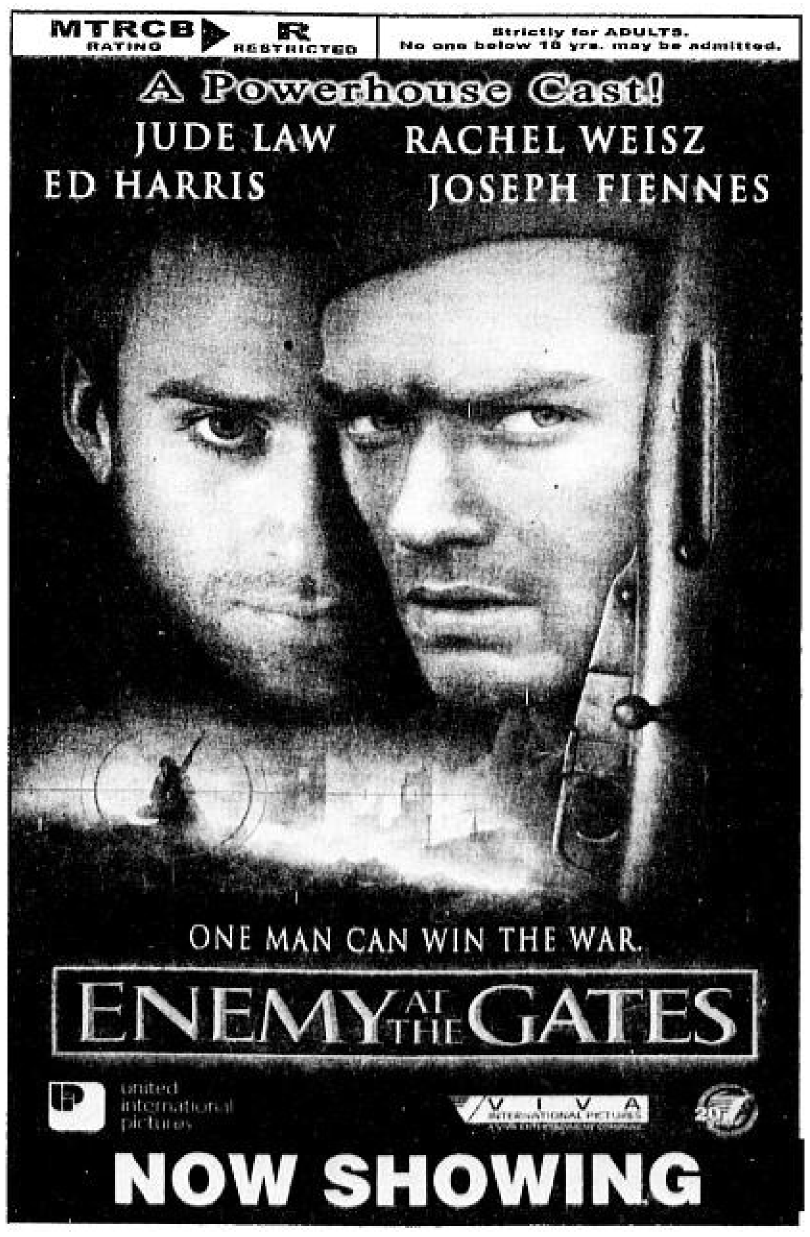
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ENTERTAINMENT

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

Particularly choice lineup of Asian movies in 2001 Fukuoka filmfest

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

THIS is the 11th year of the Focus on Asia Fukuoka International Film Festival, the pioneering filmfest devoted solely to Asian cinema.

The festival's contribution to the Asian and global cinematic mindset cannot be overemphasized. Prior to the festival's inception, international awareness of Asian films and filmmakers was limited to the finest art-house products of Japan, China and a few other Asian countries.

With the showcase for Asian movies that the Fukuoka filmfest has provided, the films of Iran, Cambodia, Vietnam and even Kasakhstan have been discovered by film buffs, and have been picked up by the bigger festivals in Europe.

The Fukuoka filmfest has also done a lot to persuade Asian moviegoers to get over their colonial mentality and to prefer their homegrown film products over the imported Hollywood blockbusters whose popularity has helped decimate the film industries of many of the countries in the region.

Filipinos should be made more aware of Fukuoka's Focus on Asia festival because many of us still need to get over our own colonial mentality, as the huge grosses of Hollywood movies in the Philippines indicate.

This month, the Fukuoka festival showcases an impressive 32 films from 15 Asian countries and regions. The filmfest's revered Director General, Mr. **Tadao Sato**, describes this year's selection as particularly choice.

The festival's highlight is a retrospective screening of seven of the films of Filipino director **Marilou Diaz-Abaya,** honored this year as one of the four Laureates of the prestigious Fukuoka Asian Culture Prizes.

Other special modules are on Iranian films and on Chinese-language films from China, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

The festival's line-up:

From Turkey, "Clouds of May" depicts the quiet life in the countryside, intertwinning family life with environmental issues.

From Iran: "Baran" is the latest movie by the esteemed director **Majid Majidig** who is famous for "Children of Heaven" and "Color of Paradise." Majidi's new film is a moving depiction of the love and hardships experienced by Afghan refugees.

"Children of Petroleum" is set in a time when oil was till being extracted in Iran by foreign companies.

And "Under the skin of the City" is about a family man who wants to work in Japan and forced to resort to crimes to raise money for the trip.

From Kasakhstan in Central Asia, "Aksuat" is about people groping for a solution on how to get out of the confusion created by the collapse of the Soviet system.

From India, "House of Memories" is a film in the Bengali language that depicts the lifestyle of a middle class family in Calcutta.

From Thailand, "Behind the Painting" is a sweet love story set in Japan in 1937.

From Malaysia: "Sensario Again" is an energetic comedy. And "Lieutenant Adnan" is on the war experiences of a Malaysian soldier who fought against advancing Japanese forces during World War II.

From Vietnam, "The Golden Key is a love story about a young couple during the air raids in Hanoi during the Vietnams War.

From Mongolia: "The Shadow" is part of a trilogy depicting social reforms in the 1960s. The movie bares the trial-and-error efforts of modernization in Mongolia. And "A Vanishing Trade" is an interesting documentary on how nomads in Mongolia's plains were able to see motion pictures.

AIR SUPPLY

Air Supply endures while other stars rise and fall

THESE days in show business, a star is "born" almost every few seconds, only to dim after only a few films or albums and become nothing more than a very short footnote in popular history.

It is unlikely the Air Supply will become that.

After coming into worldwide fame in the mid-'70s, the band led by the Australian-native Russell Hitchcock and British-born Graham Russell continues to produce best-selling albums and headline sell-out concerts. No doubt, the band's upcoming return to Manila via a concert on Oct. 2 at the Araneta Coliseum, billed as "Yours Truly: Air Supply Live in Manila," will reaffirm its firm place in the landscape of international pop music.

The show is a joint production of Viva Concerts and Uniprom Inc., the team behind such recent musical spectacles as "The Love Concert" and "Jaya Unleashed."

"Yours Truly: Air Supply Live in Manila" will bring back the songs that have become anthems to a generation of romantics—"All Out of Love," "Making Love Out of Nothing at All," "Even the Nights are Better," "Two Less Lonely People in the World," "Now and Forever," "The One that You Love," "Lost in Love"—plus new material from "Yours Truly," the band's latest album released by BMG Records Pilipinas.

What makes the Air Supply endure?

Russell believes it is their passion that people connect to. "We have passion for what we do," he says, "and that's what attracts people."

"Yours Truly" offers new proof that the Air Supply is not one to depend on old formulas and rest on its laurels. The track "Body Glove" is a surprise not only because of this stomper's techno flavor but also because of its playfully erotic lyrics.

Another attention-grabber is "You are the Reason," in which the Air Supply shares the spotlight with the Indian vocal sensation Mehnaz.

"I'd originally written the song for a movie in India," says Russell about the

AIR/ A19

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

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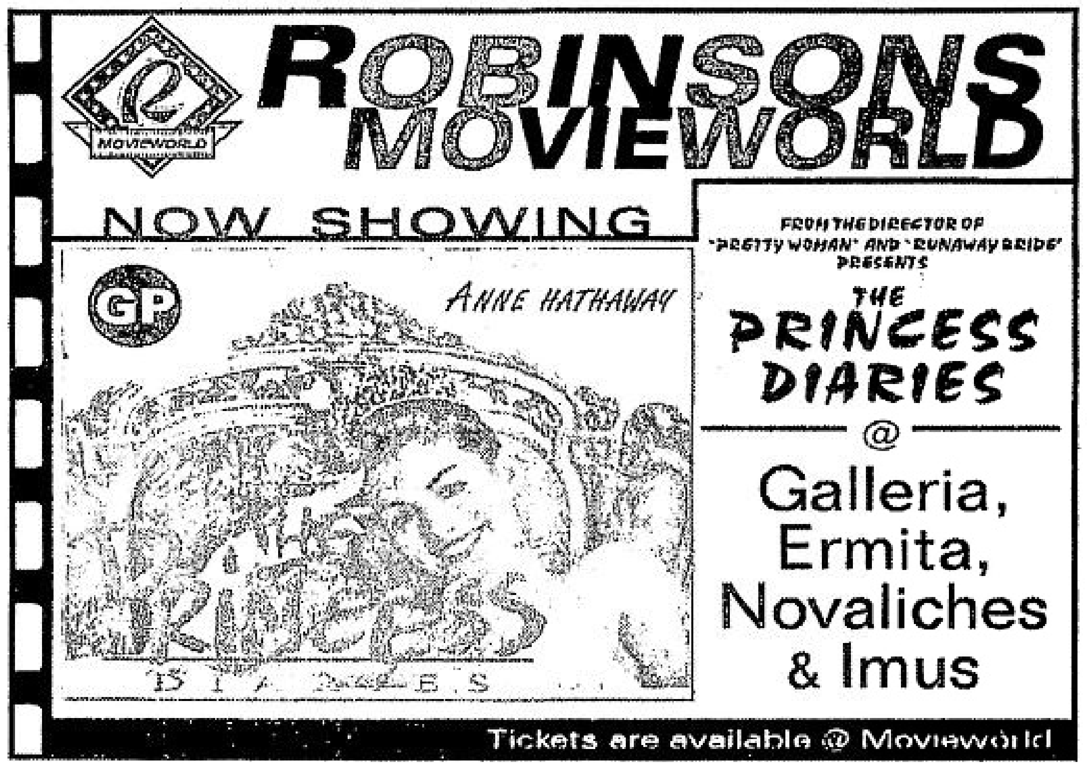

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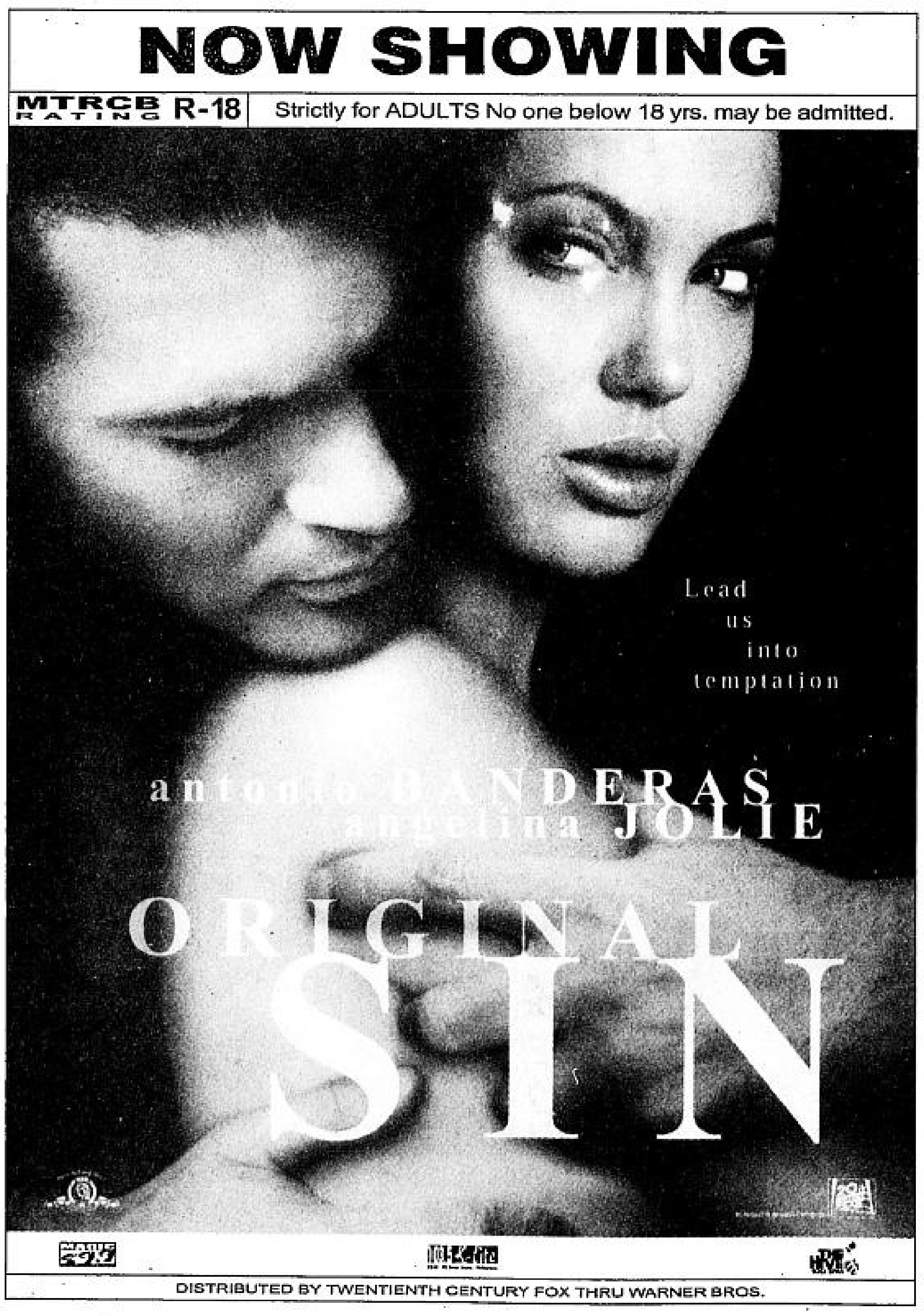

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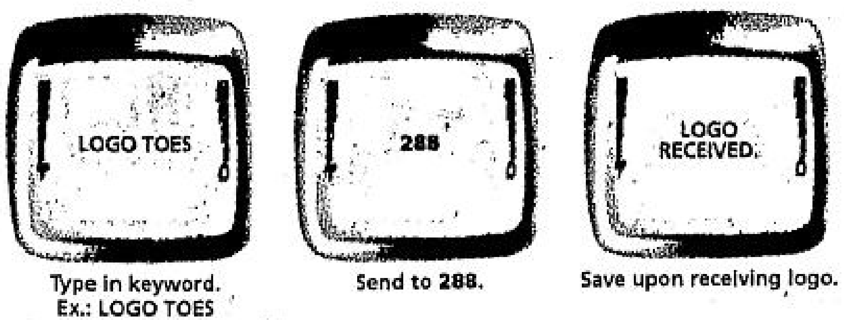
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SundayBIZ

RAUL O. MARCELO, Editor ▦ MARGIE QUIMPO-ESPINO, Business Features Editor

From selling bamboo sticks at 1¢ to heading RP's largest banks

BY MARGIE QUIMPO-ESPINO

MILLIONS saw the play of emotions on his face as he weighed the consequences of the answer to a question during his testimony at the impeachment trial last January of former President Joseph Estrada.

Former Finance Secretary Edgardo B. Espiritu tells SundayBiz, he would have revealed the names of the economic plunderers who were among the members of Estrada's inner circle.

But while he was willing to risk life and limb to answer the questions thrown by the senators, his wife Lydia, was crying and hanging on the tv set during his testimony, shouting, "Don't Ed, don't!"

But that was the past and Espiritu says that although he put his life at stake by testifying, he got himself some insurance.

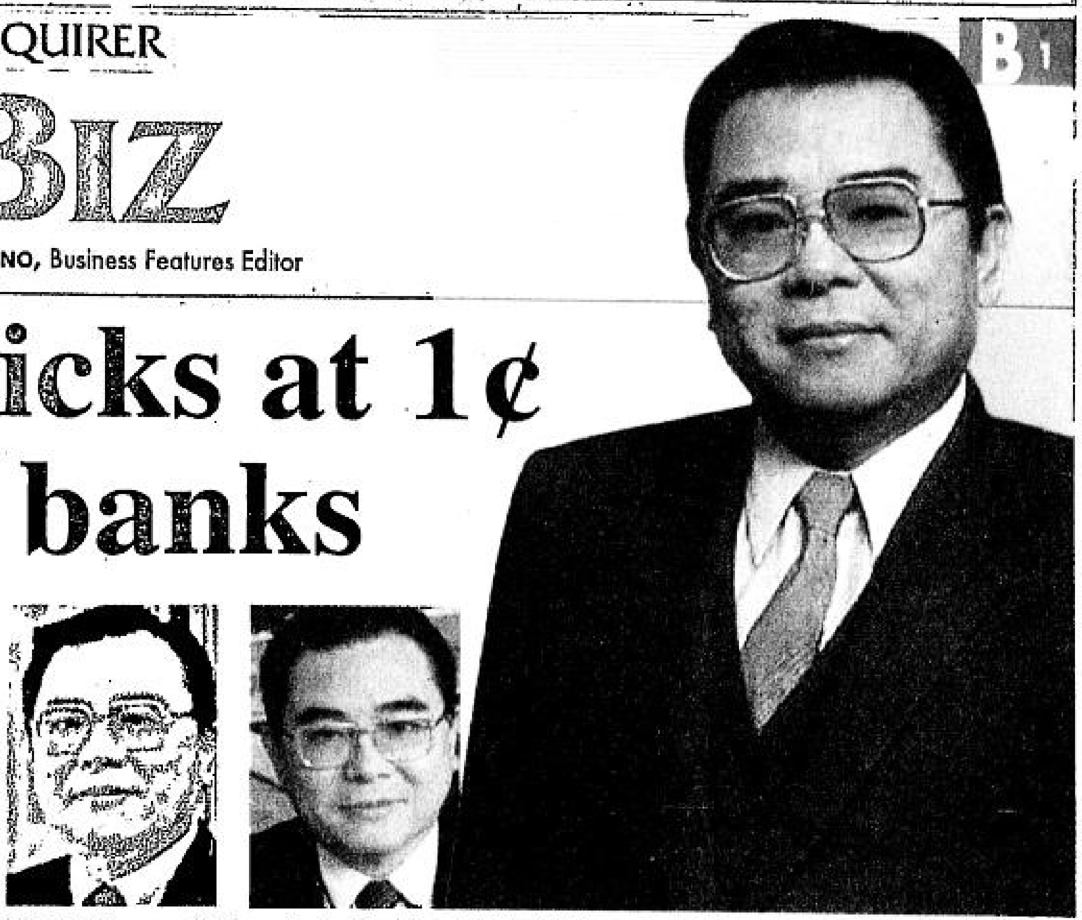
Everything he revealed and more were heard and recorded by several people and if anything had happened to him, those details would have been made public.

His only regret is that these economic plunderers remain at large and nobody seems to be pursuing the cases against them. Under Philippine laws, economic plunder is punishable by death.

As if that was not enough, a case has been filed against his son John by some in-

FROM/ B2

FIRST JOB



THREE faces of Edgardo B. Espiritu: 1985, 1984 and 1983.

Art auction house sales may slip

NEW YORK—New York art auction houses, already suffering from sluggish demand and increased competition, are bracing for a critical sales period after last week's attacks on the United States slammed the economy.

The world's two largest auction houses, Sotheby's Holdings Inc. and closely held Christie's both postponed sales in New York as a result of the attacks, which destroyed the World Trade Center in lower Manhattan.

With the economy closer to recession, doubts linger about the outcome of those rescheduled sales, experts said.

"There is every reason to understand that the whole scene is cooling off," said Clara Sujo, owner and director of the CDS Gallery in Manhattan, which specializes in contemporary art.

"The film houses are not full and the theaters are empty—it's all logical."

Boon

A slowing economy can often be a boon to galleries and auction houses as investors seek haven from the volatility of the stock market, said Arne Glimcher, chair of PaceWildenstein, which operates four galleries of 20th century art in Manhattan.

But, "in light of the situation that has occurred, I think that everything will be off. You don't have to be a fortune teller to see that," he said.

Sotheby's major sales of Asian art and 19th and 20th century prints, originally scheduled for this week, have been delayed until mid-October. However, more minor sales of decorative arts originally scheduled for the week of the attacks went ahead this week and performed slightly below the company's expectations, a Sotheby's spokesperson told Reuters.

Two sessions on Monday brought in about $439,000—about 30 percent less than the low end of Sotheby's pre-sale estimate of between $645,000 and $938,000.

Sales on Wednesday fared slightly better—totaling $529,000—down from a pre-sale estimate of between $666,000 and $976,000.

Sales still on

It is too soon to tell, however, what the results of next month's major sales will be.

"With respect to major sales that we have scheduled for November we haven't had any requests for people to remove property, and there is not really much more that can be said than that at this point," a Sotheby's spokesperson said.

At Christie's, sales have also been postponed and are set to begin early next week amid some client concern.

"Our clients are concerned that the values of the works of art stabilize," said a spokesperson for the company. *Reuters*

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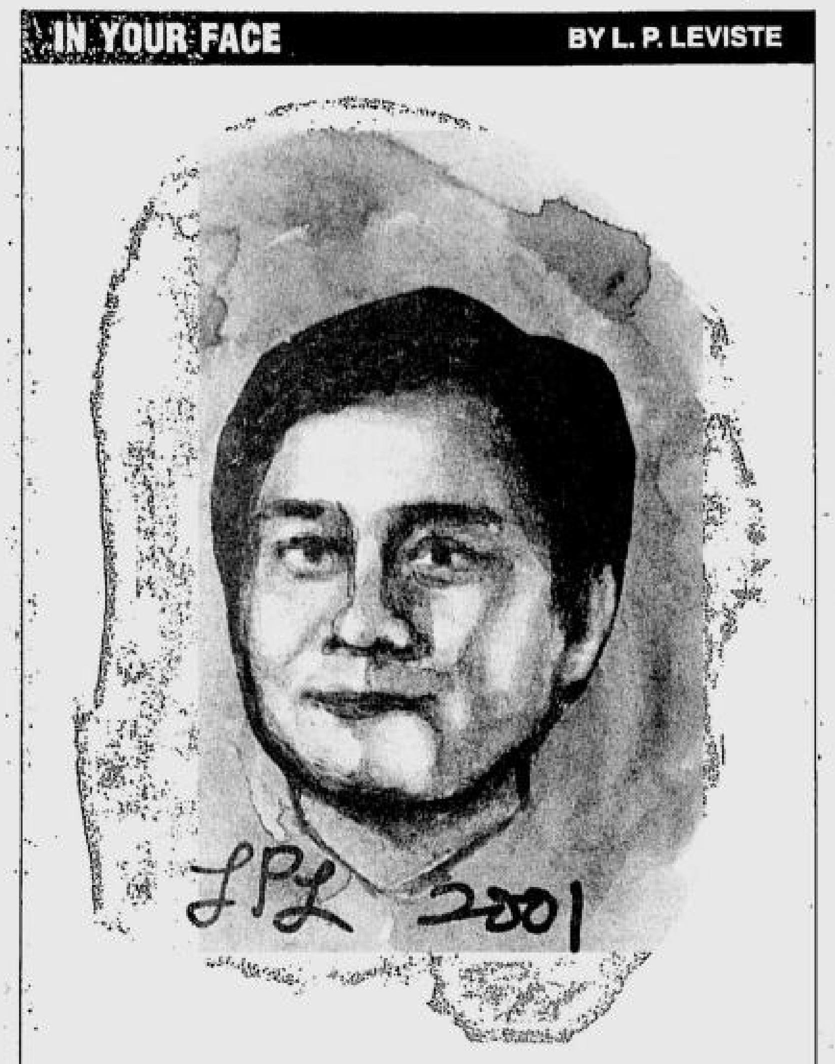
BY L. P. LEVISTE



FORMERLY with the Board of Investments, Vincent Perez has moved up to become Energy Secretary under President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. His experience as an investment banker now comes handy as he guides the state-run National Power Corp. through its privatization efforts.

From selling bamboo . . .

(From page B1)

vestors in Wincorp, an investment firm that he put up. He believes that the move was a consequence of his testimony.

His son John headed Wincorp after Espiritu joined the Estrada administration as finance chief—a job he kept for only a year.

These days, Espiritu occupies the official position of Ambassador under the Arroyo administration. "Without pay," he hastens to add.

He says he needs the title because he deals with multilateral financial institutions like the Asian Development Bank, the International Monetary Fund, World Bank and bilateral agencies like US Eximbank, and Japan Bank for International Cooperation.

Climbing mountains

It is hard to imagine that this seasoned banker who has sat at the helm of three banks, used to climb mountains to earn a few centavos.

Espiritu, who grew up in Baguio, relates that when he was 12 he would harvest small bamboo sticks and sell these to the Chinese at one centavo a stick.

The Chinese would use the sticks in string bean plantations.

He would do this during weekends. During weekdays, he would sell newspapers earning 2-3 centavos a day. His earnings were enough to meet his needs, with a little left over for savings.

To earn even more pocket money, he says he and his best friend, Sen.

FROM/ B3

Narrowing your choices, and making up your mind

"The Literary Book of Answers"
By Carol Bolt
Hyperion, New York, 2000

By Dante M. Velasco

TO BE or not to be?" That was Hamlet's question, as he was caught in a dilemma, seeking an answer to an existential question: shall he choose death, or shall he face a "sea of troubles?"

EXECUTIVE READ

Hamlet's soliloquy has survived the test of time. Reason: We creatures and actors of the 21st century have become more and more indecisive because we are faced with a lot more options. Not only that. Life has become more and more complex.

Joe Griffith, a renowned public speaker in the United States said: "It's harder to make decisions today than it ever has been. When I was a kid, there was a soda fountain in a drugstore near my house. They only three flavors—vanilla, chocolate, or strawberry. It was easy to decide. Today when I go into an ice cream store, they have 10 times more choices, and I have trouble deciding."

Here at home, in the not so distant past, we had the simple choices of coffee, tea or . . . me!? And then, it was a choice between instant coffee and brewed coffee.

Today, Starbucks or Seattle's Best keep you standing at the counter deciding brewed or not brewed, short or tall, flavored or not-flavored, hot or cold, caffeinated or decaffeinated, brewed decaf or instant decaf, hot or cold capuccino—and so on with infinite choices of taste and aroma.

The paradox of the times, however, is that decisions have to be made faster now than ever before.

Lee Iacocca, the guy who saved Chrysler, makes clear his bias for quick decision-making by making this requirement from his management team: "The quality that make a good manager is decisiveness."

"Whenever I make a bum decision, I just go out and make another," said former US President Harry S. Truman. This was the same man who ordered the bombing of the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. You cannot make a bum decision for so huge a consequence.

The advice of Robert Townsend of Avis and author of "Up the Organization," is a safer one: "Make quick decisions on small risks," especially when you can change your mind afterwards with minimal losses.

Speaking of quick decisions on small risks, the book "The Literary Book of Answers" provides you an enjoyable exercise in decision-making.

Running about 600 pages, it has one-liners per page to provide you answers to your questions on keeping or losing some thing like love or any other object of desire, buying or selling a thing of value like a car or a dream house, pursuing higher education or "being just where you are.".

Authored by Carol Bolt, who introduces herself in a book as a "professional artist living in Seattle," suggests a simple exercise to use the book and thus speed up decision-making.

Step 1: Hold the closed book in your hand, on your lap, or on a table. Step 2: Take 10 or 15 seconds to concentrate on your question. Questions should be phrased closed-end. E.g., "Is the job I am applying for the right one?" Steps 3 and 4 give you two final procedures.

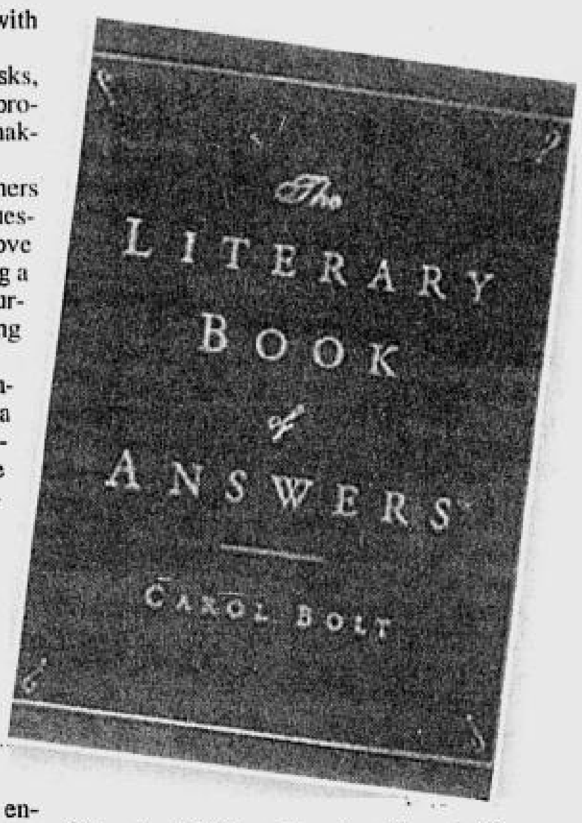
Executive Read tried this on friends and associates in the office and here are the results: On an executive's question, "Shall I enroll in a Ph.D. class this semester?—the answer is this: "Is that what you want?"—which is a quote from James Baldwin, author of "Another County."

A man, hooked on toys for the big boys, asked: "Shall I buy a Pajero?" That answer came from James Fenimore Cooper, author of "The Last of Mohicans": "What is ordered must sooner or later arrive." (The dreamy eyed friend just could not disagree!)

A newly hired executive assistant in the office queried: "Will I have career growth in my new job?" The answer came from Lewis Carroll, author of "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland": "That depends a good deal on where you want to get to."

A senior communication associate whispered a question about an erring beloved: "Will I take him back?" The answer was a riddle from Confucius but definitely made the associate smile: "The way is to be found."

There is a chance that you don't want the answer. There's a chance too when you relish an answer especially when it reinforces a fervent wish. To one nervous question, the answer was clear and unequivocal from Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, from the "Adventures of Sherlock Holmes: "Excellent, Watson, Excellent."



Now, you know that this book can be your handy ally when you are getting someone to say yes to your proposition.

Is this book useful at all? The answer to that question is a story on Sigmund Freud, the famous psychoanalyst. Freud and his niece once discussed how difficult it was for some people to make a decision.

He said, "I'll tell you what I tell them. I ask them to toss a coin."

His niece said, "I can't believe it. You, a man of science, guided by senseless chance!" Sigmund answered, "I did not say you should follow blindly what the coin tells you. What I want you to do is to note what the coin indicates. Then look into your own reactions. Ask yourself: Am I pleased? Am I disappointed? That will help you to recognize how you really feel about the matter, deep down inside. With that as a basis, you'll then be ready to make up your mind and come to the right decision."

Getting literary giants to narrow your choices and help you make up your mind must be better than tossing a coin. Want to bet? *(dantemv@i-next.net)*

SUNDAY CROSSWORD

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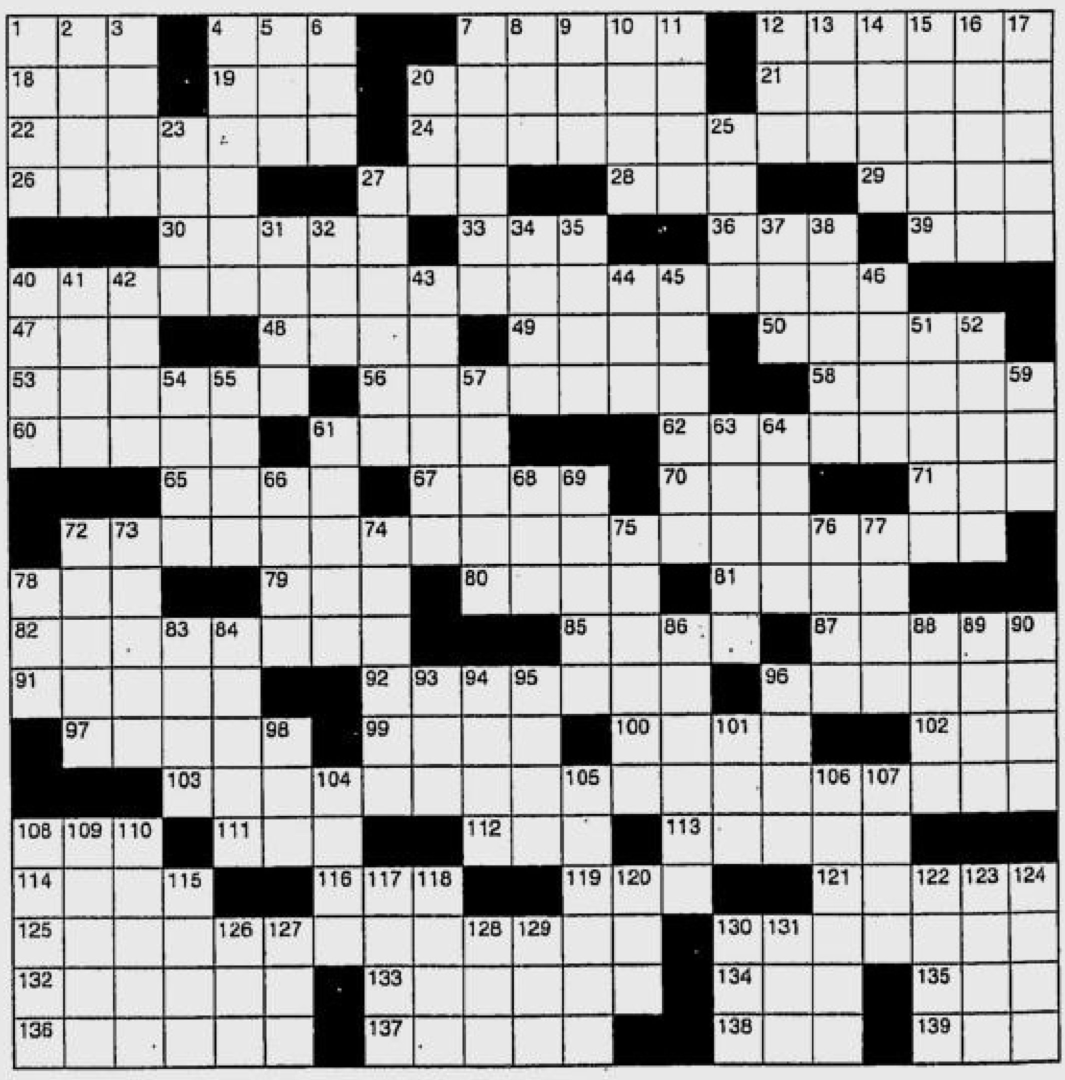


ACROSS
1 Humbug lead-in
4 "Platoon" setting
7 Arm bones
12 Delay
18 Ginger —
19 Teacup part
20 Schedule
21 May or Miles
22 Slavic soup
24 "WELL-MAINTAINED!"
26 Sit in on a class
27 Marsh
28 "Cry — River" ('55 song)
29 Bacteriologist Jonas
30 Bug-to-be
33 Billy — Williams
36 Matching pieces
39 "— So Fine" ('63 hit)
40 "MUST SELL!"
47 LAX letters
48 Colorado resort
49 Stain
50 Hymn of praise
53 Harm
56 Region in the news
58 "Kim" setting
60 Shorthand, for short
61 Mirror image?
62 Ego
65 Cain's victim
67 Pants part
70 VCR button
71 Rock's — at Work
72 "HAD MAJOR OVERHAUL!"
78 Evergreen tree
79 Levin or Gershwin
80 Female zebra
81 Tropical tree
82 Soap segments
85 — Benedict
87 Teenybopper
91 Transactions
92 Based on 10
96 Considerate
97 Tremble
99 "Modern Maturity" org.
100 Dalai —
102 Lacelike fabric
103 "NEEDS SOME BODY WORK!"
108 Something for two
111 Actor Stephen
112 Curly poker?
113 Range rope
114 Egyptian symbol
116 — vivant
119 "— Day Now" ('62 hit)
121 Traveled like a tortoise
125 "RUNS GREAT!"
130 "Ta-ta!"
132 Streamed
133 Followed footprints
134 Bleak critique
135 Skater Midori
136 Bostonian, for one
137 Paint pigment
138 Link letters?
139 Singer Stevens

DOWN
1 — ghanouj
2 Baseball family name
3 Collie's concern
4 The gods guzzle it
5 "That felt good!"
6 "The A-Team" actor
7 Equatorial nation
8 Paul or Aspin
9 Vane dir.
10 Hoss' big brother
11 Manuscript enc.
12 Bray beginning
13 Vintage
14 Where to spend a kip
15 Singer Shore
16 "— Buck" ('89 film)
17 Little looks
20 Wonderment
23 Rustic tower
25 Door hardware
27 Shrine site
31 Faure's "— d'amour"
32 By means of
34 Czech river
35 Fitzgerald or Raines
37 "Ulalume" monogram
38 Teach
40 Dormitory furniture
41 Coup d'—
42 Celebrity
43 O'Hara's "My Friend —"
44 Sea plea
45 Sunday best
46 Mobile home
51 Stop on —
52 Gunpowder component
54 MD's area
55 Asian desert
57 Casual fabric
59 Writer Rand
61 Roadway warning
63 Classroom furniture
64 Reverberate
66 Oklahoma city
68 Epoch
69 Violinist Zimbalist
72 Organ features
73 Horrid Heep
74 Wall Street acronym
75 Entertain lavishly
76 Admiral Zumwalt
77 Catch [illegible]
78 Nourished
83 Cabbage concoction
84 Actor Werner
86 With pleasure
88 — qua non
89 Sunflower support
90 He's abominable
93 — de Cologne
94 Learn fast?
95 — facto
96 Shells out
98 Language suffix
101 Exec's deg.
104 "The Thief of Bagdad" star
105 Physician
106 Head up
107 Painful
108 It has a lot of pull
109 "— Gay"
110 Tired city?
115 Dove's antithesis
117 Kruger or Klemperer
118 DEA officer
120 Composer Rorem
122 Hoss' real name
123 Hummus holder
124 Freeway sound
126 Honey of a worker?
127 Coleridge composition
128 — -jongg
129 Ferber's "— Palace"
130 Numbers man?
131 Solo of "Star Wars"

ANSWER ON PAGE A21

Local resto gets first taste of franchising

CABALEN'S business development manager Ian Tiongson and president Maritel Nievera with franchise owners Mila and Antonio Robles.

FRANCHISING in the Philippines has gone beyond foreign names or imported brands. Just recently, a local chain of restaurants famous for Eat-All-You-Can, Eat-All-You-Want Pampango cuisine has opened its first franchise in Cainta, Rizal.

With strong sense of optimism, Tonette and Mila Robles of the family behind Sta. Lucia Realty joined hands with Cabalen's Maritel Nievera to open Cabalen's newest outlet at the Brickroad Area, Sta. Lucia Grand East Mall.

"We are very happy to open this first franchise store of Cabalen. This is exactly how we envision Cabalen to be in the years to come. We want to open more franchised outlets. Right now we have seven company-owned all over Metro Manila. This store makes it eight," Nievera says.

The new store is unmistakably Cabalen in ambience. Its pre-war cum Spanish old house-inspired designs created by architect Joji Salonga complement the artistic mural done by the architect himself.

The painting has Mt. Arayat in impressionistic vibrant shades of orange, and looms over the irresistible buffet train. The subtle pale green shade of the interiors creates warmth mixed with the cool, refreshing and relaxing atmosphere.

On the second floor are function rooms for private group events or corporate gatherings of up to 200 persons.

Guests of honor at the inauguration include President Macapagal-Arroyo's son Mikee and Dr. Wilfredo Felix, brother of Cainta Mayor Nicanor Felix.

Cabalen Business Development Manager Ian Tiongson and Cabalen franchisees Antonio and Milagros Robles were on hand to greet Sta. Lucia Realtor executives Exequiel Robles, Buddy Encarnado, Annie Andres and Exaltacion Joseph.

Around for almost 14 years, Cabalen is synonymous to extensive buffet selections of authentic Capampangan dishes. Its buffet table is laid out with at least 40 dishes, at only P220 per head.

Cabalen currently operates in West Avenue, SM North Edsa, SM Megamall, Glorietta 3, SM Manila, Robinson's Place Ermita, and along Katipunan.

Interested parties for franchising may get in touch with Ian Tiongson, 911-1584.

Laying groundwork for growth

BISTRO Holdings Corporation, the local franchise holder and exclusive operator of T.G.I. Friday's, Italianni's and Outback restaurants in the Philippines, is laying down the groundwork for future development for sustained growth.

These plans are in response to the government's appeal for businesses to participate actively in the country's economic revival by promoting investor confidence in the local market.

Merritt Croker, Bistro Holdings COO, says the company is pursuing a three-pronged approach consisting of development, operations and financial strategies.

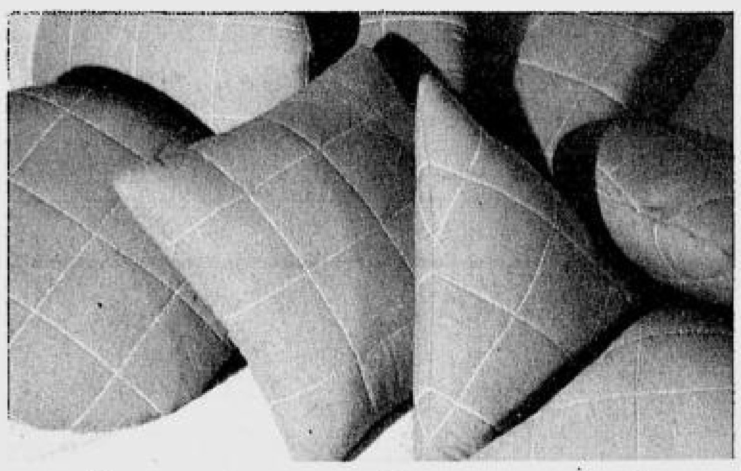
Operations-wise, Bistro Holdings has reengineered company operations to be more efficient and cost-effective by rationalizing corporate overhead expenses and consolidating purchasing of products common to the three restaurants. Friday's will soon introduce local dishes to its menu to cater to a bigger market.

Bistro Holdings' local store and national marketing strategies centered on increasing customer count. On the development side, Bistro Holdings has introduced new prototypes for Italianni's and T.G.I. Friday's. "What we do is take big business to smaller venues. he says.

Croker also says that Bistro has retained the services of one of the country's best investment counselors, BPI Capital Corp. headed by its president Natividad Alejo.

Bistro and BPI are working on plans to merge the operations of Italianni's and Friday's to achieve economics of scale as well as go public.

"Bistro Holdings has a good product, a schooled workforce, skilled management and supportive shareolders. It's a modern company that is capable of adjusting to demands of the times," Alejo says.



Sowing the seeds of entrepreneurship

THIRTEEN entrepreneurs from Negros Occidental will launch their wares during the annual Negros Trade Fair at the Megatrade Hall 1, 5th Floor, Building B of the SM Megamall on Sept. 26 to 28.

These products include small boxes and drawers using woven pandan; laminated tiles using banana leaf and cock feathers; wooden jewelry boxes and wind chimes' baragubay wine buckets, candle shades and fruit bowls and denim throw pillows with pandan accent, metal magazine racks, containers and fruit bowls, tie-dye floor and throw pillows, mini pillows, hanging lampshade made from water lily.

The 13 entrepreneurs are with the Socioeconomic Enterprise Development program, which is being implemented by the ANP Foundation for Enterprise development. They will join 60 other light industry manufacturers, many of them already exporters, in the trade fair that began 14 years ago as a marketing venue for who were then also considered fledgling entrepreneurs.

The ANPFEDI chose the 13 entrepreneurs as the ones with the most promising products from a field of 83, which it had been training and assisting during the past three years with funding from the provincial government. The entrepreneurs come from six pilot towns and cities of Negros Occidental. They were given training and seminars m business management and product development. The products they are exhibiting at the forthcoming trade fair are a result of the training and product development.

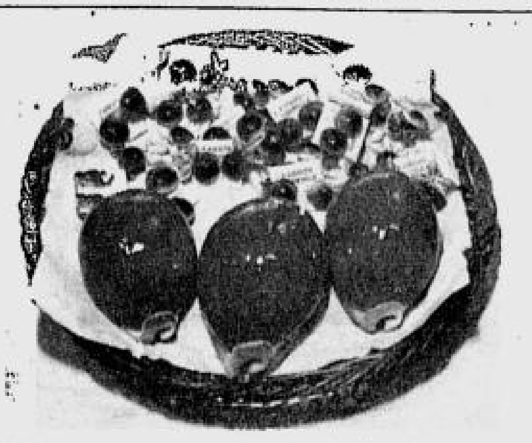
The SEED products will be marketed by the Negros Islands, Inc., a new marketing firm formed by the members of the Association of Negros Producers.

SEED envisions discover and develop more entrepreneurs who will tap local skills and indigenous materials the way a group of housewives did at the height of the Negros crisis. Those housewives eventually became the nucleus of what is now the ANP, which now has 85 members, a third of whom are now exporters.

SEED was developed out of the experiences of the ANP members during the past years. This is why an important component of the SEED program, aside from the business management training, is product development. Beneficiaries are trained not to stick to one product line alone, but develop more lines out of the existing skills and materials they use. Thus, from the pandan trays he used to make, Jesuslito Benemerito of San Carlos City was taught to make multi-function containers using the same pandan weaves. Now, he will be displaying drawers and mini-cabinet. Pat Aguilar of Hinigaran used to make bags out of water lilies; now she is also making hanging lamps. From quilted kitchen linens, Carmelie Abello of Sagay City has also developed my pillows. Silay Bamboo Rattan is now making rattan placemats from the furniture it used to make.

"Veteran" entrepreneurs of ANP emphasize the importance of product development among their little brothers and sisters because many of them had encountered difficulties when they were starting and even up to now because of limited product range. In other words, the elders do not want them to go through needlessly the difficulties they had gone through."

SOME of the region's products made of seagrass



THE RARE Golden Cowrie shells, which were used as currency during the pre-colonial era, are still abundant in Guian, Eastern Samar.

PANDAN leaves are made into baskets and packaging items.

PHOTOS BY ROGER CARPIO

Region 8 goes national

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

THE EASTERN Visayas region has, unfortunately, always been ranked among the least economically developed areas in the country. Poverty levels, on the other hand, are among the highest.

It is a paradox considering that Leyte, Samar and Biliran are teeming with natural resources and host various cottage industries that have made use of these gifts from nature to produce works of art.

One of the possible culprits is the inability of the small and medium businessmen in the region to bring their products into the market. The reasons being that these SMEs don't have enough capital and the knowledge on how to do it themselves.

Thus, for the past eight years, the Department of Trade and Industry, producers, government agencies, institutions and LGU have organized the "Bahandi" Regional trade fair to showcase these indigenous and unique products and attract investment opportunities.

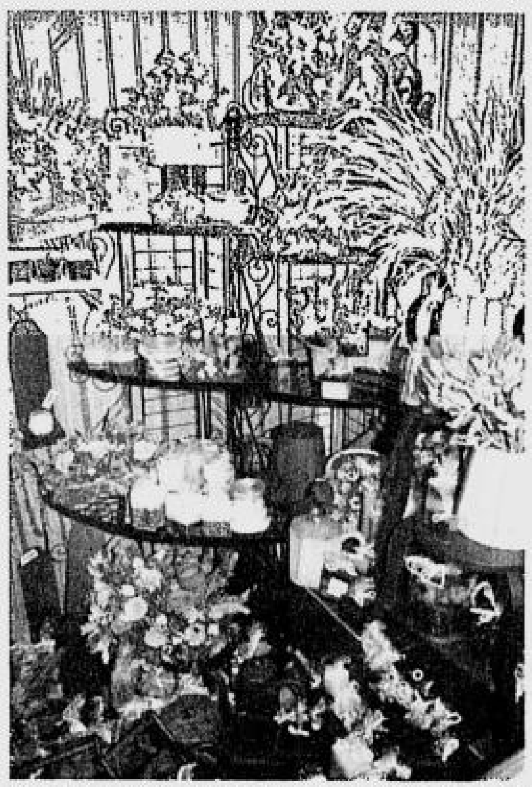
"Bahandi" is the local word for treasure and the fair has already assisted about 500 producers from the Eastern Visayas region.

Most of these are village entrepreneurs producing simple products such as fashion accessories, shellcraft, handmade paper, baskets and *banig* using abundant local materials such as ticog, pandan and seagrass.

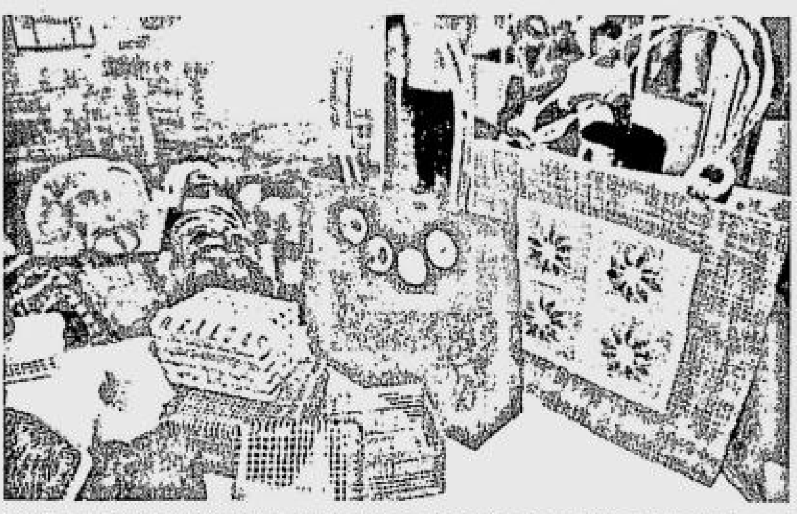
For this year there are 79 producers showcasing their products, 42 percent come from Leyte, 24 percent from Samar, 10 percent from southern Leyte, Eastern and Northern Samar account for 9 percent, while Biliran, the youngest province, has five producers or 6 percent of the 79 producers.

Through the Bahandi fair, the DTI and the private sector hope to train the producers in dealing and negotiating with local and foreign buyers, develop five new exporters, showcase 300 prototypes and generate at least P40 million in sales.

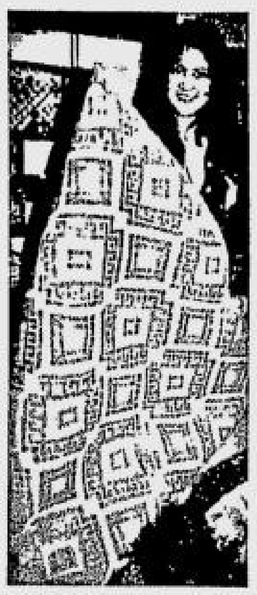
As in previous years, the Bahandi fair ended up exceeding their sales targets, fanning hopes that products from Samar and Leyte would find their way into the mainstream in the same way as products from Cebu and the Negros provinces.



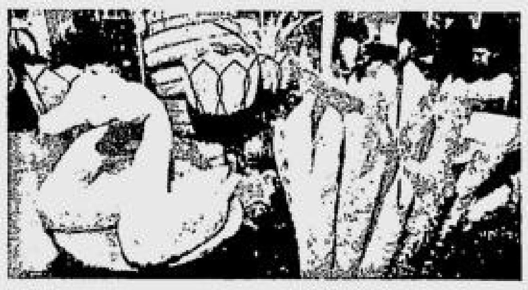
FOSSILIZED leaves of the many jemilina trees can be fashioned into lovely table arrangements.



THE EASTERN Visayas region has long been making products out of abaca such as these sinamay bags, boxes and sheets produced by De Vera Arts and Crafts.



USEFUL and colorful mats are a must buy from these provinces.



COCONUT husks are not only good for bunot. It can be made into planters, packaging materials and baskets.

LEYTE and Samar are also known for its food, such as this favorite binagol.

From selling bamboo sticks . . .

(From page B2)

Juan Flavier, would conduct traffic. They got free movie tickets from the city government as payment for their efforts.

He and Flavier were classmates in high school, along with Espiritu's wife, Lydia.

Espiritu recalls that his love affair with Lydia started when Flavier put Espiritu's *baon* (an apple) on Lydia's desk. The diminutive senator told her that Espiritu wanted her to have it.

From high school sweethearts, Espiritu and Lydia got married in 1959 and are still together after over 40 years. And he has worked hard through all that time.

Espiritu says he is used to working hard, since he has been exposed early to hard work. He describes his parents are "very strict" and they put him and his eight other brothers and sisters to work as soon as they were old enough. They all did the marketing, cooking, washing of clothes or ironing.

Teaching and banking

He dutifully performed his duties all through school. He started taking on additional responsibilities when he finished his law studies, such as teaching.

He taught law at the Baguio College Foundation for three years from 1959 to 1962 and got paid P6 an hour.

He then moved to the Bureau of Internal Revenue and was one of its trainors on taxation. He left after a year.

"I didn't like the environment. *Maraming kalokohan*," he says.

In 1963 he was invited by the family of the owner of the Marikina Rural Bank to manage the bank, which at that time was the largest rural bank in the country.

He was given a P500 a month salary as general manager and he stayed for three years. During this time he was invited by USAID to study rural banking in the US.

He took course at the Oregon State University and was made to undergo actual training at the Bank of America Agriculture Department. He was also sent abroad to study the "kibbutz" or the cooperatives of Israel.

A few months after he came back he decided to move on. He responded to a blind ad, which turned out to be that of Metrobank looking for a personnel manager.

That was the end of 1965 and he was hired for P600 a month.

His movement in the bank was quick, boosted by the good performance he showed when he tackled branch expansion.

"(George) Ty (owner of Metrobank), gave me blanket authority to travel and choose areas to put up branches in. I entered into lease agreements," he says.

By the late 60s he was a vice president. By the time he left in 1986, the bank had 300 branches, one of the country's largest.

After the local network, Espiritu was assigned to expand overseas, so he opened branches in Taipei, LA, Guam and New York.

When martial law was declared, Ty left the country for a while and Espiritu, then the EVP, was left running the bank.

He had to fend off some extortionists who made him feel that his family would not be safe in the country. He was, thus, forced to send his children to the US while he managed Metrobank.

When he was promoted to the presidency he was also concurrent head of the International Bank of California, which Metrobank owned. He says this enabled him to also build roots in the US.

After he left Metrobank, where his annual pay was already in the P1-million level, he joined the Philippine National Bank. Metrobank and PNB are among the largest banks in the country.

In 1991, he forayed into politics by supporting then presidential contender Ramon V. Mitra, who lost in the 1992 elections. He also left PNB and moved to Producers Bank, which was rehabilitated and renamed First Bank.

Espiritu, however, did not stay long due to some policy disagreements with the owner, so he moved to Westmont Bank, the former Associated Bank, which was later bought out by the Singaporean United Overseas Bank.

Espiritu says that he may have gone up the ranks to become president of two of the biggest banks, but he still banks on his experience as a personnel manager to help him do a good job.

"Ninety-nine percent of the job always involves human relations," he stresses.

He is a little sorry for not getting the chance to practice law, but at least his legal background helped him handle his responsibilities as a banker.

Cooking and driving

It has been a long banking career for Espiritu and he has said goodbye to the daily grind. Today, he spends most of his time in the United States cooking and driving for his 11 granchildren.

He also manages the Philippine News, the lone weekly Filipino- American newspaper that sells for $1 each.

Espiritu also owns 40 percent of the US franchise of Jollibee under Jollibee International, which already has eight branches in the West Coast.

Eldest son John runs a family owned bank. His youngest son Alan, left the seminary after seven years and now runs an antique shop in Hollywood.

Espiritu says his regular clients include some 150 interior decorators of Hollywood so his products end up in the homes of celebrities.

He says from a $75,000 capital, the shop is now capitalized at $2.5 million.

A third boy, Arvel lives in Portland Oregon where he and his Thai wife run a small restaurant and a real estate firm.

His only daughter, Stephanie, is a psychologist who quit her practice and ended up as corporate secretary of a bank.

Espiritu wishes he can just stay with his family but he feels obligated to help the country.

He is at present a guru to the members of Synex, a group of consultants who worked with Espiritu in several of his previous employment. Espiritu describes the group as a think tank that studies issues for the President, particularly financial issues.

At 66, Espiritu has done more than most people his age. His driving force these days is to see the country reach a position or economic strength and political maturity—even if that means putting his own life at stake.

HALF of the time, Espiritu is in the US driving his 11 grandchildren to school.

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- not more than 35 years old.

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- a Certified Public Accountant;
- with at least two (2) years supervisory experience, preferably with auditing background;
- computer literate;
- excellent communication skills; and
- not more than 28 years old.

LEASING SUPERVISORS

- at least one (1) year experience in the area of property management;
- graduate of any four-year business course, preferably Accounting,
- computer literate;
- with above average communication skills and able to relate with all levels in the organization; and
- not more than 30 years old.

MARKETING MANAGER

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North Reclamation Area, Cebu City
ON: Wednesday, 26th September 2001 at 2:00pm Prompt
ON VIEW: Wednesday, 26th September 2001, 9:00am - 2:00pm
REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT: Php20,000 (Upon Registration)

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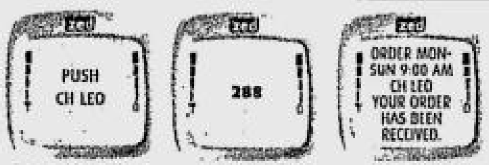

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Joan has worked closely with nurses from all over the world; She understands your dedication as nurses, your concern for your families, and your desire to succeed in the U.S.A.

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M/F, not more than 40 y/o; with relevant work experience in corporate lawyering, litigation, handling of public offerings, taxation and related fields. Must be a certified lawyer.

◈TRAINORS◈

M/F, 21-28 y/o; graduate of a four-year course preferably Mass Comm, BS Education, Business course; with excellent oral and written communication skills; must be good in Public Speaking; highly computer literate; can handle pressure and can adapt to different situations; must be willing to be assigned in Metro Manila, in the province and/or in depressed areas.

◈COORDINATORS◈

M/F, 21-35 y/o; graduate of a Business course; with 3-5 yrs sales and marketing experience must be proficient in oral and written communication; computer literate; must be flexible, can handle pressure and willing to do field works.

◈CORPORATE PRESENTORS◈

M/F, 21-35 y/o, graduate of a four-year course preferably Mass Comm.; with relevant work experience in similar capacity; excellent in oral and written communication skills and must be good in Public Speaking; computer literate; must be flexible, can handle pressure and willing to be assigned to do field works.

◈PERSONNEL OFFICER/SUPERVISOR◈

M/F, 30-40 y/o; a graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science/Studies or Human Resource Management; a Master Degree is an advantage; with minimum of 3 yrs. experience in similar capacity handling all facets of HR works.

◈ FIELD AUDITORS◈

M/F, not more than 40 y/o; graduate of BS in Accountancy and must be a CPA; with at least 2 years relevant work experience.

◈ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK◈

Female, 25-30 y/o single. A graduate of four year course with at least 2-3 years work experience; organized, assertive, and quick-minded; can deal with deadline-oriented environment. Highly computer literate with good typing skills.

◈ACCOUNTING CLERK◈

Female, 25-30 y/o, single. A graduate of BS in Accountancy with at least 2-3 years work experience, highly computer literate and can deal with deadline-oriented environment. Must have adept knowledge in processing SSS, PhilHealth, withholding tax, Pag-ibig.

◈ADVERTISING & PROMO ASSISTANT◈

M/F, 25-30 y/o, single. A graduate of Mass Comm or Comm Arts major in Advertising with at least 2-3 years work experience. Preferably with adept knowledge in design promo strategies, lay-outing, drafting. Highly computer literate and can work long hours.

◈SALES & MARKETING OFFICERS/MANAGERS◈

M/F, not more than 40y/o; graduate of Mass Comm. or Comm. Arts; Business course with 10 years relevant work experience in sales and marketing; preferably with experience in consumer goods industry must have knowledge in various Marketing Strategies and has a good leadership skills.

◈SALES REPRESENTATIVES/MARKETING STAFF◈

M/F, 21-35 y/o; graduate of Business Management, Marketing, Advertising or Mass Comm.; proficient in oral and written communication; with relevant work experience.

◈EDITOR/ASST. EDITOR/EDITORIAL STAFF◈

M/F, not over 35 y/o; holder of Bachelor's Degree in Journalism, Mass Comm. or English Comm. Arts; preferably with background in Business Administration Management; computer literate; creative, has keen eyes for details and must have relevant working experience in publication.

◈ PROGRAMMERS ◈

Male, not more than 27 y/o; must be a graduate of Comp. Scie./Com. Eng or ECE; with at least 3-yrs. relevant work experience in the following applications: SQL Server 7 or 2000, Microsoft Access 2000 or XP Visual Basic, Internet Development, JAVA ASP, Crystal Report Version 6, knowledge in Database Administration & Computer programming an advantage, Windows Operating System (1998 NT / 2000 Professional). Proven ability to work with a team/ long hours and can work under pressure.

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Male, not more than 27 y/o, must be a graduate of Bachelor of Science in Comp. Scie. / Comp. Eng'g. With 2-3 years in-depth experience in web development using Microsoft Technologies: ASP, IIS, VB Script: Access, SQL Server, Visual Interdev/Ultradev. Strong knowledge in HTML and JAVA Script Hardcoding as well as Cross-browser Development. Proven ability to work with a team/ long hours and can work under pressure.

Apply in person with application letter, comprehensive resume', transcript of records, 2 pcs. 2x2 pictures, 2 pcs. 1x1 pictures and other necessary employment credentials.

Email Address: *hrd@rise-ecommerce.com*

The Philippine Heart Center, Division of Anesthesia is accepting applicants for Fellowship in Cardiovascular Anesthesia.

All applicants must be graduate of an accredited Anesthesia Residency Training Program. For inquiries, contact OER Tel. 925-2401 local 3234-3236 or Anesthesia office local 2268.

Deadline of submission will be on the last week of November 2001.

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REFRIGERATION PLANT - (3) YORK 40T Cap. Chillers; CARRIER 525KW Chiller; (3) ALFA-LAVAL Arc 275 Chillers; IMECO XLRM 220 Evaporative Condenser; STALL Ammonia Compressor; Chilled Water Pumps & Tanks; Recirculation Pumps; Condensers, etc.
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ON VIEW: MONDAY 1ST & TUESDAY 2ND OCTOBER 2001,
9:00AM - 5:00PM & MORNING OF SALE DAYS
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Contact person: Mr. Renante Padre

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The Retail Sales Manager will lead the Account Managers into achieving the sales and collection targets.

Qualifications:
- A degree holder preferably in Business, Economics, or related fields;
- With five (5) years sales experience, at least two (2) years of which are in a managerial capacity; well rounded in sales distribution management, sales training and preferably with sales admin exposure;
- Computer literate, with excellent inter-personal and communication skills.

OFFICE MANAGER - DAVAO

The Office Manager will oversee the smooth flow of general and administrative operations in the Davao branch.

Qualifications:
- A degree holder in Business or related fields, preferably with a background in Accounting;
- With at least two (2) years supervisory experience in the field of Sales & Marketing;
- With working knowledge in MS Office applications and the internet;
- Possesses excellent leadership skills and unquestionable integrity.

ACCOUNT MANAGERS
MANILA(1)/CEBU(1)/DAVAO(1)

The Account Managers will develop and maintain sales activity in the assigned territory.

Qualifications:
- A College graduate of any four (4) year course;
- With at least three (3) years sales experience in consumer products; must be handling key accounts for two (2) years;
- Computer literate, with very good inter-personal and communication skills.

ALL APPLICANTS may send their résumés to:
Code:MK74 c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer, G/F Atrium Bldg, Makati Ave., Makati City.

Cebu applicants may also send their résumés via Email to **cebu-jobs@mail.com**.
Davao applicants may also send their résumés via Email to **davao-jobs@mail.com**
or fax to **297-1348**.
(Please indicate position applied for on the subject line; otherwise e-mails will be ignored.)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
San Lazaro Compound, Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, Manila
Telephone No. 743-8301 Locs 1310, 1311; Telefax No. 711-9582

REQUEST FOR QUOTATIONS

Loan No. : 1331-PHI(SF)
Contract No.: WHSMP/ADB-2001-G001

1. The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) toward the cost of the Women's Health and Safe Motherhood Project (WHSMP), Department of Health (DOH) and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan be applied to eligible payments under the contract for the supply and delivery of Emergency OB Supplies and Various Reproductive Health supplies.
2. The Department of Health (DOH) desires to procure the Goods described and itemized herein through International Shopping in accordance with the applicable Guidelines of the ADB, and now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders from member countries of ADB for the supply and delivery of:

ITEM	QUANTITY
Water for Injections (Triple Distilled Water) Inj. 10 ml ampule	228,681 amps.
5% Dextrose Lactated Ringers Inj. 1 liter plastic (IV Infusion)	445,752 btls.
Infusion Administration Set with air vent with needle, adult	39,153 pcs.
Winged needle infusion set with needle (G-19)	39,153 pcs.
Cotton Balls, sterile	100,348 pks.
Syringe 10 cc, disposable	68,166 pks.
Cherries, sterile	103,110 pks.
Gauze 4"x4", sterile	63,937 pks.
Surgical gloves, sterile	142,156 pcs.
Hypodermic needle G-21, disposable	124,990 pcs.
Gauze strips 4"x8", sterile	51,070 pks.
Plain 2-0 suture (Ethicon), sterile	39,163 pcs.
Povidone Iodine, Surgical skin cleanser, 7.5%, 60ml	52,075 btls.
Povidone Iodine, Solution: 10%, 60 mL	37,238 btls.
Pethidine (meperidine) 50 mg/mL 30 mL vial (IM, IV SC) as (hydrochloride)	1,273 vials.
Diazepam 5 mg/mL, 2 mL ampul (IM,IV)	37,355 vials.
Lidocaine HCL 2% (50mL/vial)	8,069 vials.
D5W 500 mL	37,265 btls.
Naloxone (for opoid poisoning), Inj: 10 mcg/mL, 1mL ampul (neonatal) (IM, IV, SC0 as hydrochloride	778 amps.
Atrophine Sulfate 1 mg/mL, 1 mL ampul	9,826 amps.
Epinephrine (adrenaline) 1 mg/mL, 1 mL ampul (IM, SC) (as hydrochloride)	358 btls.
Glutaraldehyde 2% solution (with alkaline activating solution)	20,080 btls.

SCHEDULE OF BID ACTIVITIES:

	DATE	TIME
Issuance of Bid Documents	Sept. 20 - Oct. 8, 2001	
Pre-Bid Conference	September 27, 2001	10:00 AM
Deadline of Submission of Bids	October 10, 2001	10:00 AM
Bid Opening	October 10, 2001	10:00 AM

3. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information on the bid form and inspect the bidding documents at the **Office of the Procurement and Logistics Service (PLS), Department of Health, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila, Philippines.**
4. Complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any interested eligible bidder at this address upon payment of a non-refundable fee of FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (Php 5,000.00) in cash. For foreign bidders, cost shall be ONE HUNDRED FIFTY US Dollar (US $150) including mailing fee of FIFTY US Dollar in the form of a bank draft issued to the Department of Health (DOH).
5. A pre-bidding conference will be held on the scheduled date at the DOH Convention Hall, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila.
6. All proposals must be accompanied by a bid security in the amount of not less than two percent (2%) of the Total Bid Price and must be delivered in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders on or before the deadline of submission of bids, and will be publicly opened at the above stated time and date at the DOH Convention Hall.
7. The DOH reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, and to annul the procurement process any time prior to Contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the Bidders.

(Sgd.) **ZENAIDA O. LUDOVICE, MD, MPH**
Chairperson, CO Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI - Sept. 18 & 23, 2001)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

MINERVA DEANG

MTC Branch 25 of Manila has issued **WARRANTS OF ARREST** against **MINERVA DEANG** (of Pampanga) for violation of BP 22 in Criminal Case Nos. 314501-17CR and 310541-42 CR.

Last known address is at #32 DZMT St., Manila Times Village, Las Piñas.

Any information given leading to her arrest will be given a reward. Please call **0917-7930734** and **0917-7930735.**

(PDI - Sept. 23, 2001)

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- Knowledge of basic computer/office software operation

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Along Argonsul Highway, Bolon Area

MATERIAL ASST. MANAGER

Purchasing, Warehouse Inventory & Quality Control of Incoming Materials.

QUALIFICATIONS:
1. Male or Female, 27 to 35 years old
2. Graduate of any four-year course
3. With two years related experience in manufacturing of similar capacity (SUPERVISORY OR MANAGERIAL)
4. Can work extended hours
5. Excellent in computer

Qualified applicants are requested to submit their resumé, 2x2 picture, transcript of records, employment certification, NBI or Police Clearance at the above address.

Attn: Personnel and General Affairs Department not later than September 26, 2001.

MALE CADET MECHANICAL

Newly graduate preferably from Visayas willing to work in Manila stay-in, must know how to drive motor vehicle.

Mail bio-data at:

5 STAR INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX
Caybiga, Novaliches
Quezon City
Attn: NELLIE

A TOP REALTY COMPANY needs:

CADD ARCHITECT
Male/Female; 21-27 yrs. old at least w/ 2 to 3 years experience appreciated; Graduate of BS Architecture; Knowledge in Auto Cadd Release 14; Background in Corel Draw & Adobe Photo Shop; Bring Sample of Works.

ARCHITECT/ AGRICULTURIST/ HORTICULTURIST
Male/Female; 21-28 yrs. old w/ at least 1 year experience; Knowledgeable in Landscaping design, planning and implementation for subdivision development.

Apply in person w/ 2x2 photo & resume at:
VVS HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION
3rd Flr. V.V. Soliven Bldg.1 EDSA, San Juan Metro Mla.

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is hereby given that the following Manila Southwoods Golf Shares certificates issued to **GRANDVIEW PROPERTIES & VENTURES INC.** are missing:

Certificate No.	No. of Shares
A-1341	20
A-1463	16

(PDI--Sept 9, 16 & 23, 2001)

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

ACCOUNTING CLERKS
Female, preferably with minimum 1 year experience; new graduates also welcome for other office job positions

SECRETARY
Female, Office Management graduates

Please call 807-1819 office hours or come with resumé to CPII Compound, Km. 21 West Service Road, SSH, Cupang, Muntinlupa City

---

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Please be informed that there are criminal cases entitled "People of the Philippines vs. Francis Ong" filed with the Regional Trial Courts of Makati City, Branches 58, 133, 145, 147, with Criminal Case Nos. 01-567, 01-568, 01-575-78, and 01-672-675. Various **WARRANTS OF ARREST** against accused **FRANCIS ONG**, whose picture appears above, and whose last known address is 8436 Trabajo Street, J.P. Rizal, Makati City, has been issued. FRANCIS ONG is charged with Estafa before said Courts, but is currently at-large. A reward awaits anyone who can give information of his whereabouts that will lead to his arrest.

M.M. LAZARO & ASSOCIATES
844-1540; 844-8488; 844-0396; 844-4148

(PDI – Sept. 23, 2001)

INVITATION TO BID
"AS IS WHERE IS"
DAMAGED MOTOR VEHICLES

1997 NISSAN PATROL XXX-303
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1993 TOYOTA CROWN TKB-718
For particulars, call 812-4631

PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation (PDIC) invites all authorized manufacturers, distributors, dealers, suppliers to be eligible to bid for the supply and delivery of forty-three (43) units notebook computers.

The Request for Proposal shall be made available to interested bidders starting **September 24** to **October 15, 2001**, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m at the 3rd Floor, Information Technology Center, 2228 Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City from Ms. Jackie Jose or Ms. Maricel Flores. The prebid conference shall be held at the PDIC Building, 2228 Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City on **October 17, 2001** at 2:00 p.m. to clarify/ explain any provision stipulated in the Request for Proposal.

Only eligible bidders shall be considered for bid awards.

PDIC reserves the right to reject any or all bids or any part thereof, and accept the offer most advantageous to the Government.

PDIC shall in no case be held responsible or liable for any and all costs associated with the bidder's participation in the bidding process regardless of its results.

(Sgd.) **CATHERINE F. BAMBA**
Chairman

(PDI – Sept. 22 & 23, 2001)

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Message of Thanks

We, the family and relatives of the late

EMILIA "MILING" D. SEGISMUNDO

who joined her Creator on August 14, 2001

sincerely convey our deepest gratitude and appreciation to all those who offered Masses and prayers, sent flowers, visited and kept vigil, attended the funeral rites and offered condolences to us in our moment of grief.

Remedios Vinoya Vda. de Resurreccion

Born May 25, 1900 - Died Sept. 20, 2001 - 101 years old & 4 mos.
(Widow of the late **Pacifico Dacanay Resurreccion**)

Her bereaved children **Luz & Ruperto Viloria** (†), **Romeo & Barbara Sio, Sally & Peding Castañeda** (†), **Chelly & Bernie Rebaya** (†) and grandchildren request the pious readers for the eternal repose of her soul.

The body lies in state at St. Joseph Chapel, Holy Family Parish, Roxas Dist., Quezon City.

Interment will be announced later.

ATTY. ARTEMIO D. DE LEON, JR.

of Sta. Cruz, Laguna

Peacefully joined our Lord on September 21, 2001 at the age of 66.

His loving wife **Lorna Magpily**; children **Gladys, Hazel, Dehner** and **Jonie Sueña, Dexter** and **Odessa Ambrosio**; brothers **Pepito** and **Lilian Bituin, Nestor** and **Onor Cruz, Rolando** and **Sabinne Rothman**; sister **Myrna** and **Rudy Jeturian**; grandchildren, relatives and friends request your prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Sta. Cruz, Laguna.

Interment will be on Wednesday, September 26, 2001 at the Municipal Cemetery of Sta. Cruz, Laguna after the 2:00 p.m. funeral Mass.

For God so loved the world, that
He gave His only begotten Son, that
whoever believes in Him shall not
periesh but have everlasting life.

John 3:16

We, the bereaved family of the late

JOSEFA KASUNURAN Vda. DELOS SANTOS

who joined her Creator on September 13, 2001

wish to express out profound gratitude and appreciation for the Perpetual Masses, special prayers, and letters of sympathy.

We wish to thank you for blessing and touching her during her lifetime.

LILIAN, HEIDY, NERRIE,
AURING and TOYIE and MANNY

For the needs of your departed Loved Ones, the following establishments can help you.

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Tels. 749-3806 to 11
79 Naguilian Rd., Baguio City; Tel. (074) 443-3337
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OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: ❶ Copy of Death Certificate ❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

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Parañaque City & Union City, CA
October 7, 1928 - September 18, 2001

His wife **Esperanza Eliza**; children **Daniel** and **Molly**, **Regis** and **Annabele & Eric** and **Christina**; sister **Alejandra**; brothers **Ananias, Servillano** and **Romeo**; sisters-in-law, grandchildren, other relatives and friends request those whose lives have been touched by our beloved **AMADO**, to pray for the repose of his soul as he is born into eternal life.

His remains lie in state at the Chapel of the Roses Mortuary, 1940 Peralta Blvd. in Fremont. Final rites will be at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, September 24, 2001 at St. Anne's Catholic Parish Church, Cabello Dr. in Union City. A private family ceremony at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Hayward will take place at a later date after cremation.

CLASSIFIEDS

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
San Lazaro Compound, Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, Manila
Telefax No. 711-95-02 to 03

August 20, 2001

INVITATION FOR BIDS

IFB No. 2001-08-21 [4]

The Department of Health (DOH) hereby announces the rescheduling of submission and opening of bids for **Various Pharmaceuticals (IFB No. 2001-08-21 [4])** scheduled on **August 21, 2001 to August 31, 2001, 9 a.m.** at the San Lazaro Amphitheatre, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila.

Only duly accredited drug suppliers/manufacturers and/or exclusive distributors as certified by the DOH Accreditation Committee for Drugs & Medicines Suppliers are qualified to participate in this bidding.

Copy of the list of Drugs and Medicines with specifications and quantities are available at the Procurement and Logistics Service (PLS), Bldg. 26, DOH, Sta. Cruz, Manila. Issuance of bidding documents is extended to August 30, 2001 upon payment of non-refundable fee of two thousand (P2,000) Pesos only and upon presentation of 1) Authenticated DOH Supplier's Accreditation Certificate with the list of accredited products, and 2) Authenticated BFAD License to Operate. Certificate of Product Registration is no longer required for participating in bidding but, is a requirement for the Issuance of Notice of Award. For further information, please contact the Procurement Division, PLS. at 743-83-01 locals 3626, 3627 or 711-6831.

The Department of Health reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, to amend the bidding process and to reject all bids at any time prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders or any obligation to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the grounds for the Department of Health.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health:

(Sgd.) **ZENAIDA O. LUDOVICE, MD, MPH, CESO II**
Assistant Secretary of Health
Chairperson, Central Office Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI - August 23, 2001)

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2nd INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID

All corporations registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), with extensive experience in the supply and installation of Structured Cabling for high rise office buildings, are invited to apply for pre-qualification and bidding of Contract Package 36B for the new LBP HQ Building in Ermita, Manila, with the following schedule:

Project Title	Estimated Project Cost	Issuance of Prequalification Documents	Issuance of Notice of Prequalification/ Predisqualification	Issuance of Bid Docs	Pre-Bid Conference	Bidding Date
Contract Package No. 36B: Supply and Installation of Horizontal Structured Cabling	Php 44.0 Million	Sept. 24, 2001 @ 10:00 AM to 2:30 PM	October 3, 2001	Oct. 4, 2001 @ 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM	October 5, 2001 @ 10:00 AM	Oct. 12, 2001 @ 10:00 AM

All interested contractors may obtain the Pre-qualification forms from the **Project Management and Engineering Department (PMED)**, 2/F LBP Bldg. III, 315 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City, upon payment of a non-refundable processing fee of **P1,000.00.**

Duly accomplished Pre-qualification forms shall be submitted at the above-stated office not later than **5:00 PM, September 27, 2001**, after which no documents will be accepted. All participating contractors shall be notified in writing of the results of the pre-qualification.

Only pre-qualified contractors may secure Bid Documents at the **RMDA Office** located at 2865 Finlandia St., Makati City upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **P3,500.00.**

Pre-bid conference will be held on the above-stated date and time at the FMGSG Conference Room 2nd Floor, LBP Building III, 315 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City.

Bidding shall be conducted using the two (2) sealed envelope system (*envelope "A & B"*) to be submitted to and received not later than 10:00 a.m., **October 12, 2001** (the Bidding Date), after which no envelopes will be received. Bidding shall be held at the FMGSG Conference Room, 2/F LBP Bldg. III, 315 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City.

LBP reserves the right to change the date of issuance of bid documents, pre-bid conference and the bidding date. Due notice of changes shall however be communicated by LBP to pre-qualified bidders.

LBP likewise reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect on formality, assume no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expense or loss that they may incur in the preparation of their bid, and to accept the bid most advantageous to the Bank.

(Sgd.) **ANTONIO T. HERNANDEZ**
Chairman
Sub-Committee for LBP HQ Bldg. Project

(PDI - Sept. 22, 23 & 24, 2001)

PNOC SHIPPING & TRANSPORT CORPORATION PNOC
S & L Building, 1500 Roxas Boulevard, Manila, Philippines
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Bid form can be secured from Management Services Department c/o Mr. Raoul Trinidad 7th Floor Room 718 of the same address at Tel. Nos. 525-9289 or 525-92-71 local 222 upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P500.00.

Bidders interested only for the vessel's BULLET TANKS may also submit their offer.

Sealed bids should be dropped in a bid box provided at Room 718 not later than **2:00 P.M. October 5, 2001** upon which bids shall be opened in the presence of participating bidders.

A bidders deposit of One Hundred Thousand Pesos (P100,000.00) in the form of cash, cashier's or manager's check is required. Bid indicated should be inclusive of ten (10%) percent Value Added Tax. (VAT).

PNOC-STC reserves the right to reject any or all bids or parts thereof, to waive any formality or infirmities found therein, or to accept such bids as may be advantageous to the company.

(Sgd.) **Jocelyn G. Atotubo**
Chairperson-Disposal Committee

(PDI--Sept. 22 & 23, 2001)

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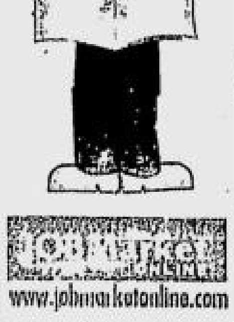

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INVITATION OF OFFERS TO SELL

The Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission - Project Management Office . urrently looking for a 5-hectare property for its proposed Septage Treatment Plant project. Among others, the property should meet the following criteria:

- **Within Metro Manila**
- **Accessible to any major road/s**
- **Close to drainage line, creek or river**
- **Absence of informal settlers (squatters)**
- **Minimal / no reclamation requirement**
- **Minimal / no site development requirement**
- **Relative distance from residential areas**

Interested property owners should send their sealed documents, together with the lot plan, vicinity map and price proposals, not later than **September 28, 2001** to:

The Executive Director
Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission
4F PMS Bldg. Arlegui St.
San Miguel, Manila

This is to inform the public that the following whose pictures appear below are **no longer connected** with **ADD PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANTS, INC.** or any of the **ADD GROUP OF COMPANIES:**

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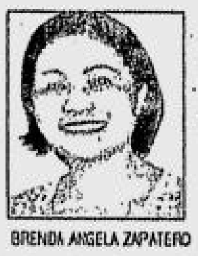

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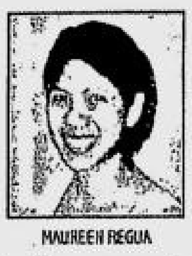

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VENUE: The Royal Mandaya Hotel / J. Palma Gil Street, Davao City

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RESIDENTIAL	MINIMUM BID
DAVAO CITY	
1) Residential House & Lot – 1 Storey / Lot 27, Blk 19, 123 Camella Avenue, Ladislawa Garden Village, Bo. Buhangin LA – 240 sq. m. FA – 145 sq. m.	1,550,000
2) Residential House & Lot - 1sty, 3BR, 4TB w/ terrace & maid's quarter / L19 B6, #6 Bauhinia Circle, Ladislawa Garden Vill., Buhangin*(w/ occupants) LA – 753 FA - 349	4,666,000
3) Res'l Lot / Lot 1, Zinnia Ave., Ladislawa Village, Bo. Buhangin LA - 545	1,540,000
4) Res'l Lot / Lot 8, 1st Ave., Juna Subd., Matina LA – 680	1,640,000
5) Res'l Lot / Lot 9, 1st Ave., Juna Subd. Matina LA – 680	1,640,000
6) Res'l Lot / Lot 16, 1st Ave., Juna Subd. Matina LA – 680	1,640,000
7) Res'l H & L - 1 storey, 3 BR, 1TB / Lot 20 Blk31, 36 Venus St., GSIS Subd., Matina *(Under redemption up to Oct. 27, 2001) LA - 609	935,000
8) Residential House & Lot 1storey, 3 BR, 2TB w/ basement / Lot 28 Blk 4, Molave corner Yakal Streets, Monte Maria Village, Phase 1, Brgy. Catalunan, Grande *(Under redemption up to Nov. 23, 2001) LA – 342 FA -164	1,320,000
9) Res'l Lot / Lot 3108-B-6 District of Cabantian*(w/ uncancelled 2nd lien) LA –10,000	778,000
10) Res'l Lot / Lot 3108-B-4 District of Cabantian*(w/ uncancelled 2nd lien) LA -1,000	148,000
11) Agri Land - Lot 596-A-B-K-3 / Nat'l H-way, Int. Bud-bud, District of Bunawan LA - 89,667	12,580,000
12) Agricultural Land / Lot 1351-D-1 District of Tigatto LA - 10,001	627,000
TAGUM CITY	
13) Res'l Lot / Lot 6, 2nd Avenue cor. Marvina Poblacion Brgy. Magugpo, Tagum, Davao Del Norte *(w/ occupants) LA - 1,580	195,000
14) Agricultural Land / Lot 6265 Barrio New Balamban, Tagum LA - 58,484	281,000
COMMERCIAL	
DAVAO CITY	
15) Commercial Lot / L519-A-2-A-5-D, J.P. Laurel Avenue, Davao City LA - 600	7,240,000
16) Commercial Lot / L519-A-2-A-6-A-2-B, J.P. Laurel Avenue, Davao City LA - 537	6,480,000
PANABO CITY	
17) Comm'l Lot / Lot 213 Poblacion, Panabo, Davao Del Norte*(w/ occupants) LA - 7,705	130,000

For more information, please call:
DAVAO CITY (c/o DO, ALEX, & NORMAN) at : 221-67-19 (DL), 221-64-00 Local 5217 & 5218
METRO MANILA (c/o ERIC, ALLAN, JOY, ROSELL) at : (02)893-86-20 (DL), (02)813-04-19 (DL) (02)812-63-56 (DL), or 892-0011 / 811-3566 local 2611, 2652, & 2818
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Hse & Lot, 2 sty Twnhse
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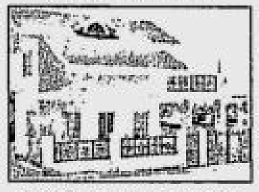

Hse & Lot, 2 sty Twnhse

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Nr Roosevelt new 3BR 4TB 2CG P4.1M•bnew 4BR 4TB 3CG nr StoDomingo P8M 3713996★09177957850DBO

Sikatuna P3.8M Rush Emilorna 9279388

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HOUSE & LOT

VARIOUS AREAS

HOUSE & LOT

VARIOUS AREAS

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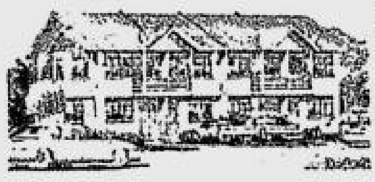

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WESTVILLE HOMES 3
Ligas, Bacoor, Cavite
Initial DP: P 15,000

Developer:
CASIMIRO DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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COMML/RESDL

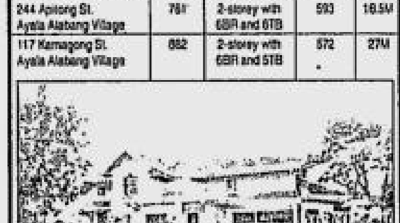
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AND SALES

UP FOR SALE DOWN ON PRICE

REAL ESTATE PROPERTIES AT BOTTOM COST

HOUSE & LOTS, TOWNHOUSES & CONDOS

Address	Lot Area	Improvements	Flr Area	Price
ANTIPOLO				
Lot 29 Blk. 1 Rosal Ave. Lumang Bayan Executive Village, Marcos Highway	126	3 units of 2-storey (with 2BR and 1TB per unit)	120.25	1.42M
Lot 16 Blk. 97 Regal St. Village East Subd	204	unfinished 2-storey with 3BR and 3TB		1.6M
BIÑAN, LAGUNA				
Lot 13 Blk. 2 Gumamela St. San Jose Village 2	132	2-storey with 4BR and 1TB	70	1.150M
BULACAN				
No. 20 Sampaloc St. Constantino Subd. Marilao	290	single-detached with 1BR and 1TB plus warehouse	236	1M
No. 26 Kankiran St. Cangin	177	single-detached house with 3BR and 2TB	133	2.3M
CAINTA, RIZAL				
11 Baker St. Filinvest Homes East	717	bungalow with 4BR and 3TB	257	5M
127 Aries St. Villarica Subd	254	2-storey with 5BR and 3TB	200	2M
CALOOCAN CITY				
No. 219 Evergreen Ave. Evergreen Executive Village, Bo. Bagumbong	150	single-detached with 2BR and 2TB	99	1M
Lot 48 Blk. 29 Phoenix St. Palmera Homes Bo. Bagumbong	135	single-detached with 2BR and 1TB	52.5	600T
GMA, CAVITE				
Langka St. corner Alley San Gabriel	145	single-detached with 1TB	72	335T
LAS PIÑAS CITY				
14-B Angela Townhomes North 11th St. Angela Village		townhouse with 3BR and 2TB	110	1.4M
Lot 22 Blk. 62 Rumulus St., La Segovia BF Resort		townhouse with 3BR and 2TB	110	2.1M
MAKATI CITY				
Unit 705, South Star Plaza (Cityland V), South Super Highway		condo unit with 2BR and 2TB	68.76	1.67M
Cityland Condominium San Gil Puyat Unit 506 Unit 517 Unit 615		commercial unit	38.07 57.98 29.41	35T/sqm 35T/sqm 35T/sqm
MANILA				
4740 Guadalcanal St. Sampaloc	300	4-storey commercial/ residential bldg. with 4BR and 5TB	1040	13M
Unit 512, Manila Astral Tower, Taft Ave. cor. Pedro Faura St. Ermita		residential condo with 2BR and 2TB	91	4M
MARIKINA				
65 Manhattan St. Provident Village	350	2-storey with 4BR and 2TB	441	4.8M
MUNTINLUPA CITY				
244 Apitong St. Ayala Alabang Village	761	2-storey with 6BR and 6TB	593	16.5M
117 Kamagong St. Ayala Alabang Village	882	2-storey with 6BR and 5TB	572	27M



Address	Lot Area	Improvements	Flr Area	Price
MUNTINLUPA CITY				
Lot 1 Blk. 28 Hyacinth St. South Greenheights Subd	422	bungalow with 4BR and TB	215.30	1.7M
PARAÑAQUE CITY				
Bermuda cor. Bahrain St. Annex 40, Better Living	55	2-storey with 2BR and 2TB	91	1.26M
No. 10 Hometown St. Fourth Estate Subd	200	split-level house with 5BR and 2TB	185	1.7M
PASAY CITY				
No. 14-D Stanford St. Adela Hidalgo Village	64.75	3-storey townhouse with 3BR and 3TB	194.42	3.305M
187 Amaiz Ave. San Roque	207	house and lot	32	6.21M
PASIG CITY				
Unit 303 Calatuna Bldg. Las Villas de Valle Condo Valle Verde 2, Kaimito St. cor. Lanuza Ave.*		condo unit with 3BR and 2TB	132.06	4.26M
Renaissance 2000 Meralco Ave. Unit 308, 3rd Flr.*		condo unit with 3BR and 4TB	191.065	9.6M
QUEZON CITY				
Unit B, Fairview Mansions Carmel St. Fairview	59.12	townhouse with 2BR and 3TB	108	1.8M
Unit K, Fairview Mansions Carmel St. Fairview	55.2	townhouse with 3BR and 2TB	113	1.8M
10 Yanesa Dr. Sierra Monte Villas, Filinvest II*	96	2-storey townhouse with 3BR and 2TB	88	1.7M
No. 138 A. Luna St. Project 4*	288.2	2-storey with 6BR and 2TB plus shophouse	465.25	4.6M
Int. Alcantara St. Banlat, Tandang Sora	276	single-detached with 3BR and 2TB	128	1.1M
No. 4 Dapitan St. Ayala Heights	828	4-storey with 7BR and 6TB	1076	30M

Address	Lot Area	Improvements	Flr Area	Price
QUEZON CITY - NOVALICHES				
Lot 10 Blk. 1 Summerville Subd. Sauyo, Novaliches	266	2 units of unfinished house	142	1.7M
TAYTAY, RIZAL				
Lot 27 Blk. 7 Washington St. Crescaville II Subd	112	bungalow with 3BR and 1TB	86	900T
No. 475 Topaz St. Palmera Homes II*	75	2-storey with 2BR and 2TB	92	725T
VALENZUELA				
21 St. Benedict St. Francisco Subd. Tugatog	240	2-storey with 3BR and 1TB	166	1M

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LOT

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QUEZON CITY

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Marcos Hi-way comml lot w/ warehouse 1020 sqm P13M neg Jun 6453139

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Ghills 600-750-1000sm SEV DBO 723-2391

PROVINCIAL

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LOT

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CONDO/TWNHSE/APT

QUEZON CITY

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Crisanta Tower 634-1212

RUSH! Renaissance 2000 DBO 2br+2tb 09178143792

QUEZON CITY

RUSH! TSora 3BR+1md 2TB P2.5M DBO 0917-8143792

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CONDO/TWNHSE/APT

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HOUSE

MARIKINA

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PASIG

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QUEZON CITY

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3BR 2TB mds rm P15K/mo 123 A K-1st Kamuning QC

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PROVINCIAL

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CONDO/TWNHSE

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QUEZON CITY

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2. Company profile
3. Permits & licenses (PCAB, SEC/DTI, BIR Certificate of Registration and Mayor's Permit)
4. Work experience (list of past & present projects)
5. Financial capability (latest & audited financial statement, photocopy of current bank accounts and latest ITR)
6. Bank reference (with contact person, tel. no. and address)

The prequalification/eligibility documents must be submitted to Engr. JAIME A. PASATIEMPO or Engr. ROSITA C. VERBO, Bids & Awards Department, 173 P. Gomez St., San Juan, Metro Manila, not later than ***5:00 p.m. from Monday to Friday.***

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(PDI-9/23, 30 & 10/7,2001)

Notice is hereby given that the ff: Official Receipts of **SKY-CABLE** series #90980-90100 were lost. Any transaction covered by the said O.R. will not be honored. (PDI-9/15, 16, 22 & 23,2001)

PUBLIC NOTICES

PERSONAL

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Holy Spirit. Thou who make me see everything and show me the way to reach my ideal. You who give me the divine gift to forgive and forget the wrong that is done to me and who are in all instances of my life with me. I, in this short dialogue, want to thank You for everything and confirm once more that I never want to be separated from You no matter how great the material desires may be. I want to be with You and my loved ones in Your perpetual glory. Amen
Person must pray this 3 consecutive Days without stating one's wish. After 3rd day your wish will be granted no matter how difficult it may be. Promise to publish this as soon as your favor has been granted. MTO

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The Philippine Heart Center (PHC) invites sealed written bids for:

I - One (1) year contract (January - December 2002) for the following:

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b) Pest Control Services
c) Laundry Services
d) Supply of X-ray Films
e) Janitorial Services
f) Security Services
g) Supply of Med. Liquid Oxygen and Gases

II - Six (6) months (January - June 2002) contract for Pharma, Med./Lab. and Foodstuffs Supplies.

Only duly accredited bidders/suppliers will be allowed to participate in the bidding.

List of requirements to be submitted:

1. Letter of Intent
2. SEC Registration
3. Business License
4. License to Operate (BFAD)
5. Financial Statement (last 2 years)
6. ITR (last 2 years)
7. DOH Accreditation
8. Location Map of Office
9. List of Clients

Additional requirements, please call purchasing division at 922-0574 c/o Noemi.

All interested bidders/suppliers must submit their accreditation documents on or before **October 15, 2001** at Purchasing Division.

The PHC reserves the right to disqualify any prospective bidder/s if found that they have submitted falsified documents and/or information and the right to accept or reject any bid, and to annul the bidding process and reject all bids at anytime prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder/s.

(Sgd.) ROMEO J. SANTOS, M.D.
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(PDI – Sept. 21, 22, 23, 28, 29 & 30, 2001)

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TRAVEL

Rosario A. Garcellano, Editor

MODERNIZED in keeping with the times

Why not take the Ship?

YOUNG and bright-eyed staff

By Abe Florendo

FOR many people, the ship is still the only way to travel. There's more to it than the romance (leave that to schoolmarms and woebegone poets); traveling by sea in these scattershot islands is practical and economical and relaxing to the mind and spirit. Unlike when flying, you don't feel rushed. But then many people who take the boat usually have all the time in the world.

Unfortunately, the Philippine shipping industry has lagged as a preferred mode of transport (the airlines are not faring better, though). It has become associated with sweaty passengers bent low to the ground by heavy luggage, shabby steerage accommodations, if not ocean tragedies. (God help us, but then major tragedies have also happened on land and in the air.) But the times are changing and our shipping companies are undergoing a sea change, as it were, to catch up.

WG&A has recouped with a merger, and now Negros Navigation (NN) is trying to push ahead with a change of hands, from the Lacsons of Negros to the Gatchalian group of Manila, specifically Metro Pacific. Bitay Lacson, who in the mid-'90s courted public offering for the rehabilitation and modernization of NN passenger ships, has been retained as chair, along with his long-term vision for the company. And he and his group are positive that by next year, with new equipment and container vans and personnel costs brought slightly lower, the company will be cruising along just fine.

Even now, a regular passenger of NN will readily recognize some welcome changes.

These changes my friend Bambi Borromeo and I set out to discover on the M/S St. Joseph the Worker sailing from Manila to Bacolod. Bambi, a Bacolod native and until recently an advertising executive, used to take NN way back when he was a student in Manila; he still remembers a guy who waited on tables by day and regaled passengers with his limited repertoire of folk songs by night.

I have not traveled by Negros Navigation since the days of its cruise ship, the grand lady Doña Monserrat, when I took the leisurely trip from Manila to Iloilo, Romblon and farther down south, and another one that took me north to Ilocos. Those were memorable trips that could compare with my travels on the legendary (but faded) Queen Elizabeth to Southeast Asia, and later the Royal Caribbean's Sovereign of the Seas to the magical Caribbean isles.

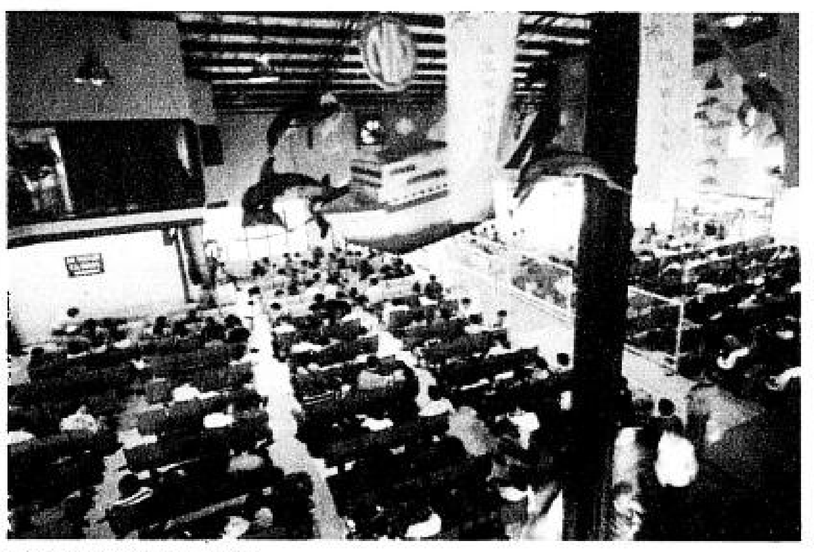
I'm not bragging; I'm just saying that you will be as happy on the St. Joseph the Worker as on the Queen Elizabeth if you don't quibble about the service and the accommodations—at their levels. Meaning, don't expect international cruise-ship standards on the boat to Dumaguit.

At the terminal

Boarding the ship at the NN terminal at Pier 2, North Harbor, is now less of a hassle because of the uniformed porters who will haul your luggage on pushcarts (for a regulated fee depending on the number or perceived weight of your bags) and guide you through the gates, up the gangplank and to your cabin. The porters have been organized into a cooperative and receive a regular salary; they are enjoined from accepting tips.

In the old days, says Bambi, you could get trampled to death by porters fighting for the privilege of carrying your bags, and then you got fleeced while you still had breath in you.

Passengers may now wait in an area offering comfortable chairs and an airy atmosphere, with booths selling soda and junk snacks that Filipinos cannot seem to live without when traveling. For first-class passengers, there's a VIP lounge where they can have coffee, watch TV and read the papers while waiting for final boarding time. A great convenience is the free-of-charge, air-conditioned dormitory for those from out of town—like, say, Batangas or Quezon—who have to leave home early to catch the last bus to Manila in the evening and the first ship out the next morning.



AIRY waiting lounge

Our porter deposits our smaller bags in our cabin and Bambi's huge ones (he was bringing sound equipment) in another room intended for bigger things. That done, we saunter to the main lobby where we familiarize ourselves with the outlets—the Cocomedor for first-class passengers, the Fiesta Stop for economy, the Ship Shop convenience and souvenir store (where you can buy anything from instant noodles to imported chocolates), and the Bahandi coffee lounge.

We also encounter the cheerful and very young staff (average age: early 20s). They remind you of McDonald's crew except that they don't wear earphones and are better at handling people, not burgers: On boarding or disembarkation time, they line the gangplank and hold you by the elbow to keep you steady, or help you with baby or baggage.

> You're at ease, you don't feel rushed. Then again, many who go by boat usually have all the time in the world

What we will soon discover is that the economy-class restaurant offers very good buffet dishes, which are not listed on the fine-dining menu of Cocomedor. We will also discover that *apres* dinner, Fiesta Stop converts into a jovial karaoke hall, with laughter, camaraderie and flirtations (for the "Love Boat" fantasists) all around.

Nonetheless, dinner at Cocomedor (named after the coconut) is a sumptuous treat worthy of the fancy restaurants of Malate. The items on the menu range from the European chicken *cacciatore* and pork schnitzel to the Continental sirloin steak and, never beneath any gourmet's taste, the Filipino *adobo* and *sinigang* and Bacolod's chicken *inasal*.

Visiting the captain

After dinner, having spent some time astern contemplating the foamy waters of the sea trailing behind like a bride's torn veil, Bambi and I decide to see the captain of the ship.

No problem, the young receptionist tells us, and we are escorted to the dim-lighted wheelhouse where Capt. Wondito T. Leguan welcomes us with an almost exaggerated enthusiasm, like he's not had visitors before. Or not anyone, anyway, who would want to know what route the ship is taking.

Captain Leguan, an Ilonggo, who has been with the company for two decades, is obliging.

We are traveling southeast, he says, spreading a map under a lamp and tracing the directions with his finger, from the North Harbor of Manila passing Cavite and Corregidor. Speeding at 19 knots, we enter the narrow passage of Verde Island, with its beautiful but treacherous waters, and where traffic now separates into north and south, which has averted possible collisions for ships that have become bigger.

Where do they seek shelter in a storm? In Puerto Galera and Pola Bay in Mindoro, replies the captain, or in Pagapas Bay in Batangas, or in Carmen Bay in Tablas in Romblon, or in Sicogon. We don't want to dwell on storms, perfect or not, and the captain's finger traces the direction of the ship as it slips into Mindoro Strait, down to Romblon Island and Sibuyan Island and Masbate, then past Higante Island and Sicogon, in the neighborhood of Panay Island, which leads to the strait going to Negros Occidental, passing Victorias and then, our destination, Bacolod.

All in 18 hours, or eight hours of sleep and 10 hours of leisurely dining, reading a book, watching TV, and the contemplation of one's direction in life, south to paradise or west to perdition.

Coffee with the manager

After dinner, we had coffee with Alex Parocha, the hotel services manager, at Bahandi. Like all of the room and F&B services staff on the ship, Parocha is a recruit of Hans Gourmet, a Makati company owned by Hans Schallenberg, in the contract of Negros Navigation.

The manager, who at 28 is not much older than his crew, happily notes that "everything is new, from the quality of service to the quality of food, especially in the budget class." NN has upgraded its menu (imported sirloin steak *bistek*, for instance). And they are spending P4 billion for its eight vessels to refurbish the passenger areas, he says.

"Linen is now free in economy," Parocha points out. Big deal, you may say, but not to passengers who know about cramped bunks. Fresh, starched sheets are an unexpected luxury.

NN's target is to upgrade services to that of a 3- or 4-star hotel and have it licensed by ISO within the year. As of now, NN has total 2,206 rooms, of which 1,962 are budget-class. At the moment, Parocha says, there's an immediate need for improvement in the toilets in economy (meaning, more toilets) and for entertainment in first class, maybe a live band or a lounge singer, or a waiter-folk singer with a wider repertoire. In the economy dining room, they seem to be quite happy with the bingo or the karaoke singing contests. Young folks want to be the stars of their own show, like Aiza Seguerra.

Prospects

Karaoke, however, will not kick in the wanted revenues. Reynaldo L. Ebreo, branch manager in NN's home port of Bacolod, is looking at the company's new prospects in terms of increased passenger and cargo loads. He says NN is aggressively tapping into such niche markets as educational trips for maritime, tourism, and hotel and restaurant management schools, as well as other group tours, offering as much as 25-percent discounts during the lean months of July to September. To counter the airlines (an ambitious but realistic goal), NN is offering a 20-percent discount on a 7-day advance booking or a round-trip ticket.

For the big Bacolod-Iloilo daily traffic, NN in coordination with Aboitiz is running the Fast Craft, a catamaran running 38 knots, like the Hong Kong-Macau run, between the two cities (now to Cebu). The market for the Bacolod-Manila run, on the other hand, is dominated by NN, with 80 percent of the market share against its closest competitor's 20 percent.

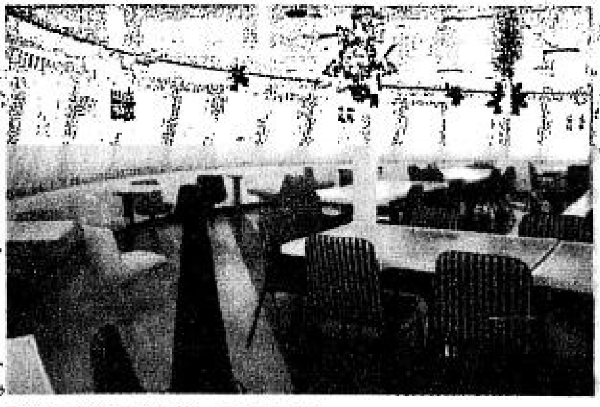
By 2002, says Ebreo, with the new equipment and container vans and the personnel costs slightly lower, they expect to gross P2.5 billion (P1 billion for passenger and P1.5 billion for freight).

Everyone in the new Negros Navigation shares his bright prospects. The company now plies as many as 16 destinations throughout the southern islands, servicing countless people for whom the ship—now rehabbed, updated and modernized by the new owners—is the truly practical, leisurely, and (if you're still swooning over that movie) distinctly romantic way to travel.

Negros Navigation has brought back the air-conditioned Shuttle Bus Service from Pier 2, North Harbor, to major drop-off points: Baclaran for P40, Sucat for P70, Alabang for P70 and Cubao for P50. Beats scrambling for a cab with a suspicious-looking cabbie.

THE MARANAO Suite

THE BANABAR



THE KAINAN in economy

THE COCOMEDOR for upscale dining

TRAVEL BRIEFS

Seamless travel

SINGAPORE Airlines (SIA) is set to invest over $6 million in a new system software, dubbed Network Management System, that will allow it to optimize flight connections at each airport.

Better flight connections will ultimately benefit the customer, said Huang Cheng Eng, SIA executive vice president for marketing and the regions.

"The new system will also allow us to efficiently deploy our aircraft resources to create better schedule linkages for connecting services," he said. "This will be done through the system's sophisticated forecasting and resource management methodologies. In turn, an improved match between capacity and traffic demand can be achieved."

The Network Management System is being licensed from Sabre Holdings Corp., a global leader in providing flight scheduling and network systems for airlines. The Sabre design and development team will work closely with marketing and technology professionals to implement the system and tailor it to SIA's requirements.

SIA expects the new system to be operational by the first quarter of next year.

Chapel a-building

THE CANYON Woods Residential Resort in Laurel, Batangas, is building a chapel named after the Most Holy Name of the Infant Jesus and set to be blessed on Sept. 30 by Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales.

As a highlight of the event, the Congregacion del Santissimo Nombre del Niño Jesus yesterday opened an exhibit of images at the clubhouse lobby.

Sto. Niño images belonging to Ben Farrales, Tony Adriano, Chito Ilagan, Romme Ortin, Don Martin de Jesus, Efren de Jose and Nolie Hans, among others, are on exhibit.

Canyon Woods, headed by George Go as president and CEO, now serves as weekend home for many city dwellers and retreat for club members and their guests.

The chapel will be their place of worship as Sunday Masses will be celebrated regularly. The Congregacion donated the image of the Infant Jesus for the main altar.

Asean passes

TRAVELERS to Asean countries can now easily visit more than one destination in the region using the Asean air and hotel passes.

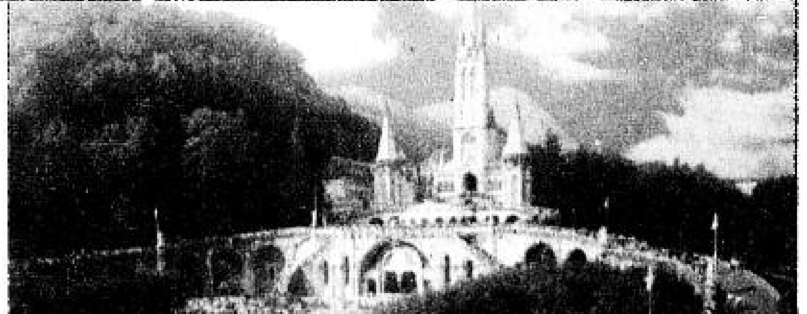
The air pass was first introduced on Dec. 1, 1998, to promote Asean as a single destination. Last August, the Asean Tourism Association (Aseanta) launched the hotel pass to complement the air pass and ensure convenience for travelers.

Both passes are valid for sale until Dec. 31 at any of the participating airline offices and authorized travel agencies outside Asean countries.

The air pass, covering 29 Asean cities, must be issued in conjunction with an international air ticket issued by Royal Brunei Airlines, Garuda Indonesia, Malaysia Airlines, Philippine Airlines, Singapore Airlines, SilkAir, Thai Airways International or Vietnam Airlines. It is priced at $109 per flight coupon (per sector) for travel on economy class. A minimum of three continuous sectors in Asean must be purchased.

The hotel pass—honored by 34 international-class hotels in Bandar Seri Begawan, Jakarta, Bali, Manila, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur and Bangkok—must be purchased in conjunction with the air pass. It is priced at $75 per single/double room per night (including tax and service charge) for a minimum stay of seven nights per hotel.

For more information, visit www.aseanta.org.



AUTUMN IN LOURDES

The most moving procession in Lourdes, France, is the one held late in October, when country folk and their animals assemble to pay homage to Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception. Lourdes is part of a Marian pilgrimage to Europe scheduled to start on Oct. 12, just when autumn descends on the countries to be visited—Belgium, France, Spain, Portugal and Italy. Interested parties may call Adams Express Travel at 521-1651/1638.

FOR FEEDBACK, TEXT US AT (0919) 661-2337 OR E-MAIL US AT LIFESTYLE@INQUIRER.COM.PH

Sunday LIFESTYLE

CHELO BANAL-FORMOSO, Editor

Ads sell life-saving ideas

By Cathy Babao Guballa
Photos by Ellen Tuyay

WHEN you see the advertisement on television, you will probably want to rush to the nearest hospital and request for a mammogram pronto. In the background, there is tango-like music that plays but the ad's power lies in the highly effective visuals it employs. A huge, glass marble rolls down a table and is "captured" under a rice bowl. Subsequently, two rice bowls symbolizing two breasts are shuffled around by a hand, as in a guessing game to see which one hides something underneath. The words "Don't guess. Have your breasts examined" are flashed on the screen and a number that women can call for more information on breast cancer.

Leukemia and breast cancer are the two causes that the advertising agency JimenezD'Arcy has chosen to be the beneficiaries of its advocacy campaign and the focus of its time and energies. The agency had been doing print advocacy campaign for the Leukemic Indigents Fund Endowment (Life) since 1996 to help raise awareness and funds for a childhood disease that can actually be reversed if caught before the age of 13.

The current print ad shows a red *quezo de bola*

ADS/ p.C6

Storyland RIDE N'WIN PROMO
Sept. 22 - Dec. 15
Buy 2 RIDE-ALL-YOU-CAN WRIST TAGS and get a chance to win any of these
GRAND PRIZES
2 Banco De Oro Accounts worth P10,000 ea
2 Sony Playstation II
2 Pokemon Showcases
2 Swatch Watches
Deadline for submission of entries: Dec. 15, 2001 7pm
Grand Raffle Draw: Dec. 16, 2001 3pm
PLUS a chance to win instant prizes
Come To Storyland SM Southmall, SM City Fairview

No Problem.

He needs attention, affection, and lots of stuff too.

Introducing the HUGGIES® and Standard Chartered VISA card. It's the only international credit card that you can personalize by putting your baby's picture on it. You can also get special discounts or a FREE gift at selected establishments just by using your card.

Now, you can give yourself and your baby everything you need and see your bundle of joy everytime you use your HUGGIES®-Standard Chartered VISA card. It's the one thing you and your baby need.

For inquiries or to request for application forms, please call 867-9000.

HUGGIES Standard Chartered

GET DISCOUNTS AND FREEBIES AT · Kids At Work · Gingersnaps · Maxibear · Little Tikes · ZanZu · Toys Unlimited · Dreams · My Playroom · Coralyn · Maxi Toylab · Just Born · Big Joy

Going, going ...almost gone!

First Raffle Draw: Sept. 26, 2001*

Here's your chance to **WIN** the first of three Opel Astra Wagons on Sept.26!*

BUY your Nokia 5110i Globe Handyphone Prepaid Plus kit now for only ₱4390!

Special promo kits available at Globe Business Centers and authorized dealers nationwide. Look for the official promo sticker on the box.

Promo period: August 18 to November 18, 2001 only

*Change in raffle draw date approved by DTI-NCR. See posters for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2640, Series of 2001.

Globe HANDYPHONE Prepaid Plus

Hindi lang plema ang problema sa ubo.

Pamamaga ng air passage, dapat din tanggalin!

Twin Target Loviscol®

WHITEHALL
Loviscol

Carbocisteine

Tanggal PLEMA Tanggal MAGA

Tanggal UBO

WHITEHALL For further information, please write to the medical department of Wyeth Philippines, Inc. 2236 Pasong Tamo Makati.

Also available in Adult Suspension and Pediatric Syrup.

Her boyfriend proposes but she wants more time

LIVE AND LET LIVE

Tita Dulce

DEAR Tita Dulce,

I'm 19 years old and a graduating student.

My boyfriend and I engaged in a pre-marital sex. He discovered that I was still a virgin. He always told me that he is proud of me and so he insisted on marrying me.

I know he loves me as much as I love him. But I begged him to give it a little more time.

I'm not sure my parents will agree to my boyfriend's proposal. Yes, he is emotionally and financially stable, but I feel that I'm not ready for a permanent commitment. Yet, I'm afraid to lose him.

I will be graduating from college this year. I have promised my parents that after graduation I will get a job and support the education of my younger brothers until they finish college.

Should I follow my heart or my mind?

GELLIE

The way you put it, it sounds like he will leave you, or you'll lose him, if you don't marry him. I don't think that in your case, one necessarily follows the other.

When a guy respects and loves you as to offer marriage after realizing he has taken your virginity, he most likely also respects and loves you enough to listen to what you'll say before he walks out on you.

And what you'll tell him will make sense: You love to marry him, but not this soon because there are promises you like to keep before you walk down the aisle. And because those promises are not self-serving, I'm sure your boyfriend will appreciate your reasons.

Discuss them with him. It's very likely that, if he were not totally sold to them, he will nonetheless not be averse to a compromise. Commit only the education of one or two of your brothers instead of all of them. After all, those whom you would have sent through college and found work would then be in a position to help fund the schooling of the younger ones.

After you and your boyfriend have defined the terms of your compromise, you can then approach your parents and present to them his proposal to marry you as well as your suggestions on how you could still make good your pledge to help finance your brothers' schooling.

You, however, could have avoided this dilemma had you and your boyfriend taken more time to explore first each other's dreams and plans before you explored each other's passions.

It's now water under the bridge. For other young lovers out there, however, it still is a good reminder: If you can't really help it, go ahead and kiss—but, also tell. Tell each other's dreams, ambitions, plans. It is not just your heartbeats that must harmonize, but your lives as well; not just your lips that must meet, but you and your individual goals, too.

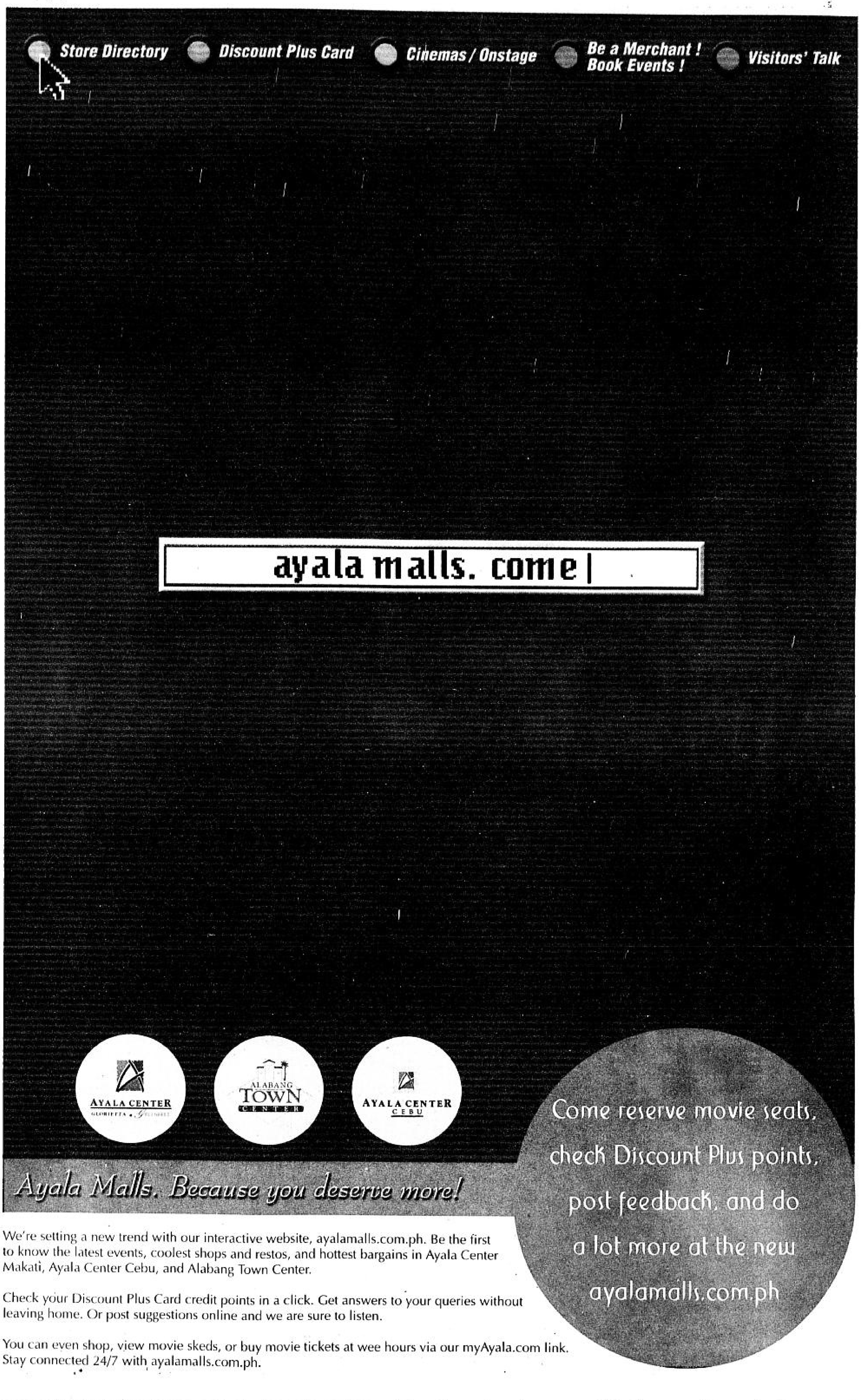
* * *

Thank you for sending me the letters of many people who want to help me regarding my autistic nephew. My cousins are already considering the schools suggested by your readers. May God bless you!

HEELEBELE

And God bless you, too, my dear, and most especially those who responded to your request. It took a while to send their e-mails to you (and I apologize for having mis-copied your e-mail address in this column), but all's well that ends well.

E-mail the author at titadulce@netscape.net or send letters to P.O. Box 2353, Makati CPO 1263 Makati City, or PDI, Chino Roces Avenue corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City


Store Directory
Discount Plus Card
Cinemas / Onstage
Be a Merchant ! Book Events !
Visitors' Talk

ayala malls. come|

AYALA CENTER GLORIETTA • GREENBELT
ALABANG TOWN CENTER
AYALA CENTER CEBU

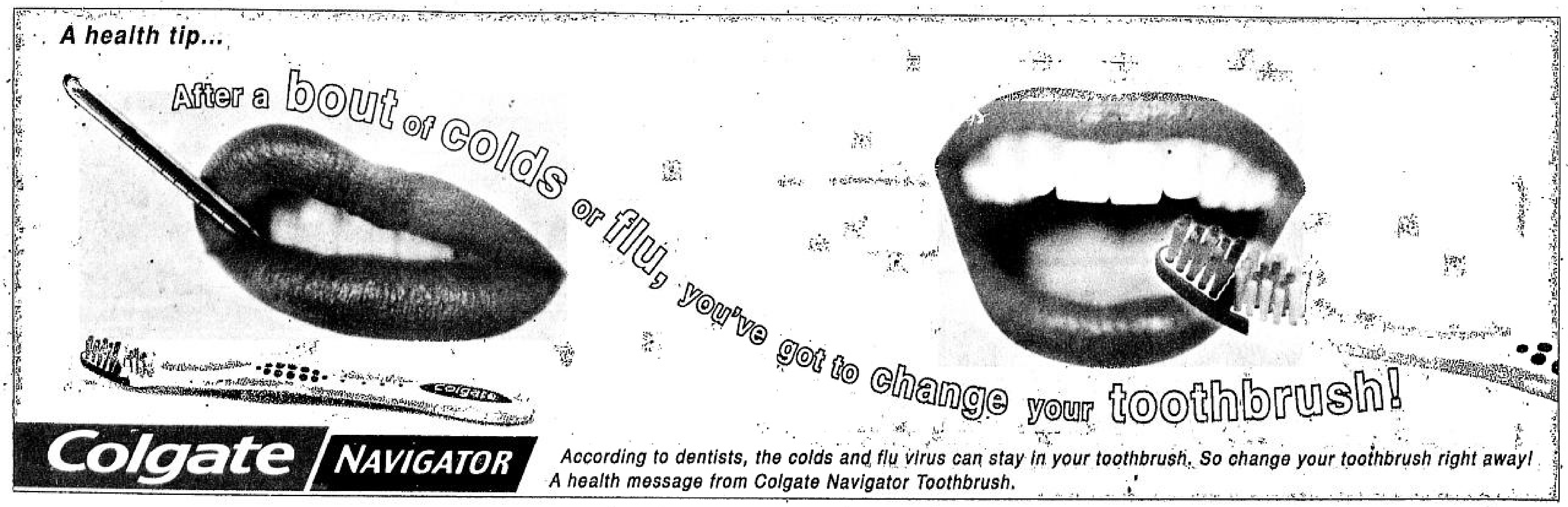
Ayala Malls. Because you deserve more!

Come reserve movie seats, check Discount Plus points, post feedback, and do a lot more at the new ayalamalls.com.ph

We're setting a new trend with our interactive website, ayalamalls.com.ph. Be the first to know the latest events, coolest shops and restos, and hottest bargains in Ayala Center Makati, Ayala Center Cebu, and Alabang Town Center.

Check your Discount Plus Card credit points in a click. Get answers to your queries without leaving home. Or post suggestions online and we are sure to listen.

You can even shop, view movie skeds, or buy movie tickets at wee hours via our myAyala.com link. Stay connected 24/7 with ayalamalls.com.ph.

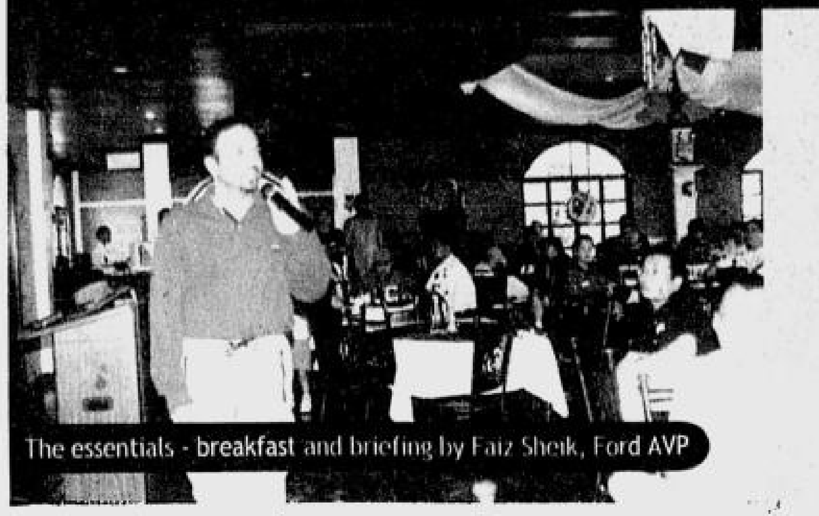

A health tip...

After a bout of colds or flu, you've got to change your toothbrush!

Colgate NAVIGATOR

According to dentists, the colds and flu virus can stay in your toothbrush. So change your toothbrush right away!
A health message from Colgate Navigator Toothbrush.

NO BOUNDARIES
FORD OUTFITTERS


The essentials - breakfast and briefing by Faiz Sheik, Ford AVP

Outdrive, Outrough, Outlast
The Ford Outfitters Run

You've probably seen it several times. On the North Luzon Expressway on the busy streets of Pampanga, on areas you never even though were accessible to vehicles. About 34 imposing, tough-lookin Ford Expeditions, Sport Tracs, Rangers, SuperCrews an F-150s confidently driving by one after the other. Manne not just by the typical young, testosterone-laden youn man but men and women of varying ages and persuasions

Riding the mega-dike

Imposing convoy of giants

Sport Trac • Expedition • F-150 • Ranger • SuperCrew

Ford

NO BOUNDARIES
FORD OUTFITTERS

A family affair.

Then you have witnessed samples of the famous Ford Outfitters Run. An exclusive event for Ford 4x truck and SUV owners.

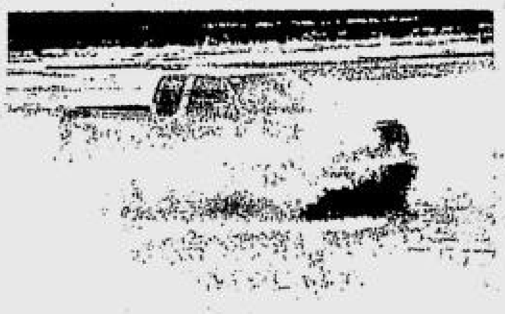
Of course, you've seen vehicles like these in busy urba areas. Like an animal comfortable wherever it is, yet no exactly in its habitat. The congested, paved streets of Makat may be like a temporary address for this creature, as everythin else about it screams weekend warrior -- weekends spent off-road, down and dirty, toughing it out. It may come in a variety o colors, yet you know it looks best in several coats of mud, sand, laha and rainwater.

Switch to 4Low and hit the lahar beds

And that's exactly what the Ford Outfitters Run is all about. T break the chains of limits and boundaries. To take each Ford owner to his capacity and beyond. Beyond traffic lights and parallel parking, beyond one-way streets and no-entry signs.

Only owners of 4x4 Ford vehicles are invited. Individuals who call their vehicles by name, and hardly ever let anyone else tak the wheel. People who know exactly the kind of reaction their vehicles elicit from onlookers, because they had that same feelin themselves before. It's a cult that subscribes to the philosoph of fun, adventure, and no boundaries.

Going wild in the great playground


My F150-my sand pit.

Help! Let me out!

The Ford F-150 SuperCrew

The F-150 SuperCrew. Equipped with a 4.6L Triton™ V8 engine, 19 feet long chassis with a full size passenger cab, 60/40 Split Rear Folding Seats, Rear Seat Powerpoint and a Power Moonroof. All these and more will be your way to be remembered as an owner of the one pick-up that redefines pick-ups.

The Ford F-150 Lariat

Its beastly good looks foretell an e
Also endowed with a 4.6L SOHC Tr
best-selling nameplate in automoti
best-selling vehicle in the U.S. for

The Ford Explorer Sport Trac

A unique hybrid of SUV luxury and pickup toughness, its luxurious interior and potent 4.0L V-6 engine make it the beast of both worlds. Its unique features include rear climate and audio controls for passengers' use, and an optional extendible cargo cage and tonneau cover.

12
13
WKB 244

Diesoline

The No Boundaries Ford Outfitters Run is one big event with a whole fleet of Ford 4x4's thundering across untrodden roads. In this giant event, Shell Gives out P1,500 worth of Shell Fleet Plus cards to provide the only gasoline worthy of being inside those incredible hoods.

Customer research reveals that drivers primarily seek two key benefits in a gasoline: "Faster response, quicker acceleration." Top fuel designers from Shell's Research and Technology Centre in Thorton, England were tasked to develop a new gasoline grade based on those specifications. By combining the choicest ingredients and subjecting the product to the most stringent of tests, they brought forth new Shell Velocity.

More than just an additive enhancement, it contains the exclusive ingredient, Acceleron Energy Boosters, that makes Shell Velocity lighter and easier to burn - giving faster response and quicker acceleration compared to any other gasoline, and allowing for a cleaner, more complete combustion. This means faster response and quicker acceleration than any other gasoline sold in the Philippines, leaded or unleaded. Rigorous tests done here and abroad have proven that motorists will immediately start to benefit from Shell Velocity, right from the first fuel tank. Can your car run on Shell Velocity? The answer is yes. It is unleaded, simply the best gasoline in the Philippines today.

SHELL FLEET PLUS

Designed to work for you

This following definitely has its perks - during the Outfitters Run, everybody and his mother gets treated to free breakfast, lunch and refreshments. With Shell as a major partner, they even get free gas - P1,500 worth of Shell Velocity through the Shell Fleet Plus Card. And after the event, all Ford drivers and their companions get a hip, new Outfitters shirt. How's that for just being particular with the vehicle you drive?

On September 16, rains poured and traffic stopped, literally. As Ford trucks and SUVs rolled out of Max's Restaurant in San Fernando after a hearty breakfast, Pampangueños were awed at the sight of the fabulous convoy. Taking up the better part of Pampanga roads designed for pedicabs, the fleet took just about 30 minutes to reach serious lahar country. As passenger jeeps took their sweet time tiptoeing through bumps and pools, the tough Ford vehicles easily sped and splashed through the roughest of rocks and the muddiest of melted lahar. Like captive animals that had just been let out of their cages, each truck and SUV merrily did what it was made to do. No trails, no flat ground was visible - you had to go make your own. It was truly driving off, off road.

Of course, rain and lahar produce textures and depths most akin to quicksand. While roughing it, a lone F-150 submerged its wheels in deep lahar zone, unable to lift itself up and go on. This is where we saw an example of the unique power and ability of a Ford vehicle to survive in such conditions. The Expedition of Faiz Sheik, Ford's AVP for Marketing, came to its aid, and pulled out the F-150 using a powerful winch - a super-tough cable pulley system that attaches to another Ford vehicle that is powerful enough to pull up other vehicles without it moving. With the expert off-roading know-how of the Pampanga-based Off-Road Ware (ORW), moments like this are easily fixed. Tips and pointers are given to drivers on basic off-roading like when to shift to 4WD mode, 4High or 4Low, during the briefing before the run.

The architects of the "Ford Lifestyle"

After driving like Mad Max, everybody had his or her own photo taken with their beloved vehicles in its natural environment. Then it was off to the Clark Field picnic grounds for a sumptuous, well-deserved lunch - again by way of uphill climbs and grassy fields.

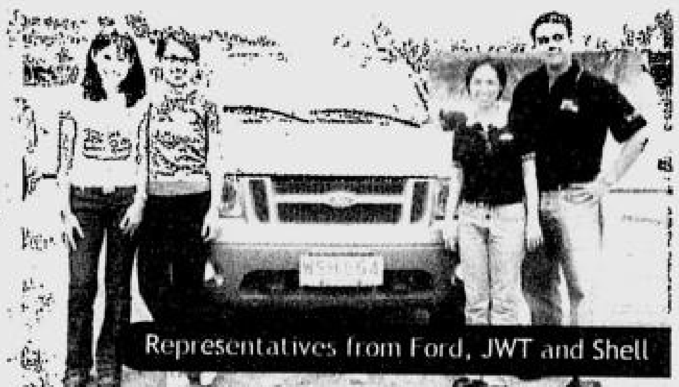
Everybody was quite energetic and wound up, quite like after winning a major competition. No wonder they just had a taste of what their vehicle can really do. Something they can never ever experience back in the city.

This is the world you've always dreamed of. The picture you've had in your head all day, from 9 to 5. A world of No Boundaries.

Outdrive, outrough, outlast, out-of-bounds - that's the essence of the Ford Outfitters Run. We're sure you'll come out of it asking when the next Run will be.

Register Now!

The No Boundaries - Ford Outfitters Run is available exclusively for Ford 4x4 owners. To register and find out more about the events, call 867-9099. Only a limited number of slots are available per run. The next event is scheduled for October 21. Register today. This is one experience you wouldn't want to miss!


Representatives from Ford, JWT and Shell

Bubbles, the dog, loved it too!

Never too young to go off-road in your Ford

You're in safe hands to have fun!

ven beastlier nature.
iton V-8 engine, the Ford F-150 is the
ve history worldwide and has been the
the past 18 years.

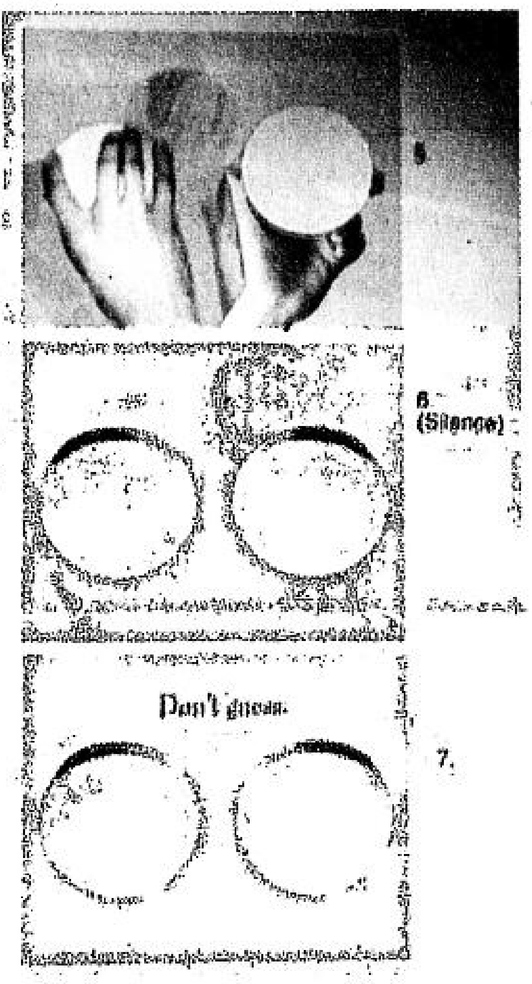
The Ford Expedition

It bears a name synonymous with getting out, and rightly so.
With its 4.6L, SOHC Triton V-8 engine, you get 240 horsepower under your command. This SUV comes complete with a brake/shift interlock feature, rear door child safety locks, Securilock passive anti-theft system, and a 2nd generation driver and front passenger airbag supplemental restraint system (SRS), among other safety and security features.

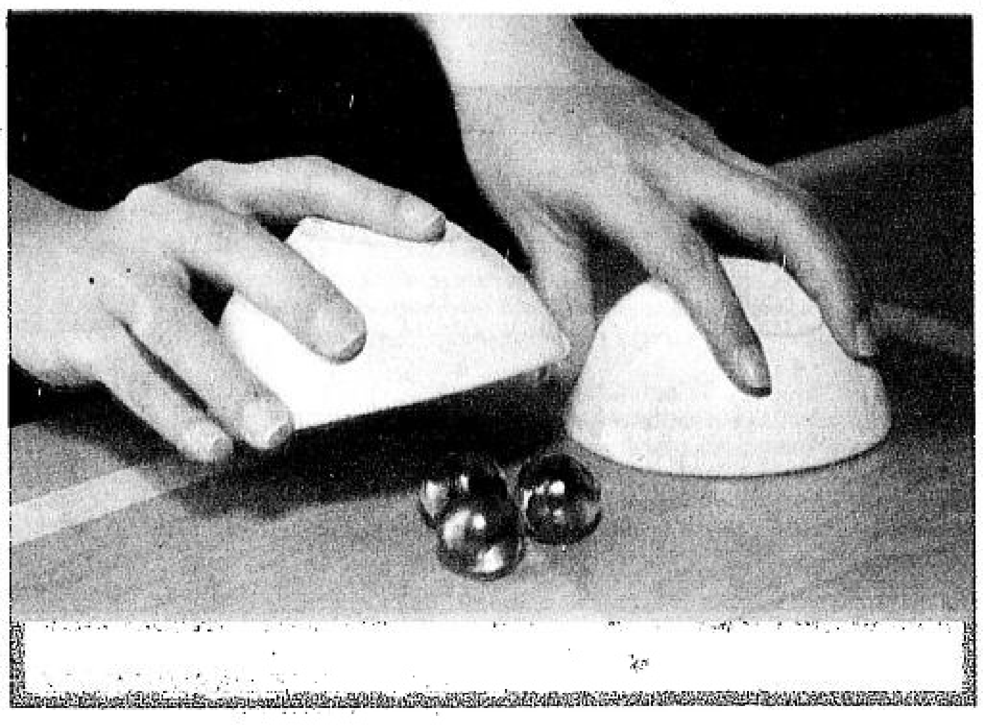
Girl power-the lead truck with the all-girl team

The Ford Ranger

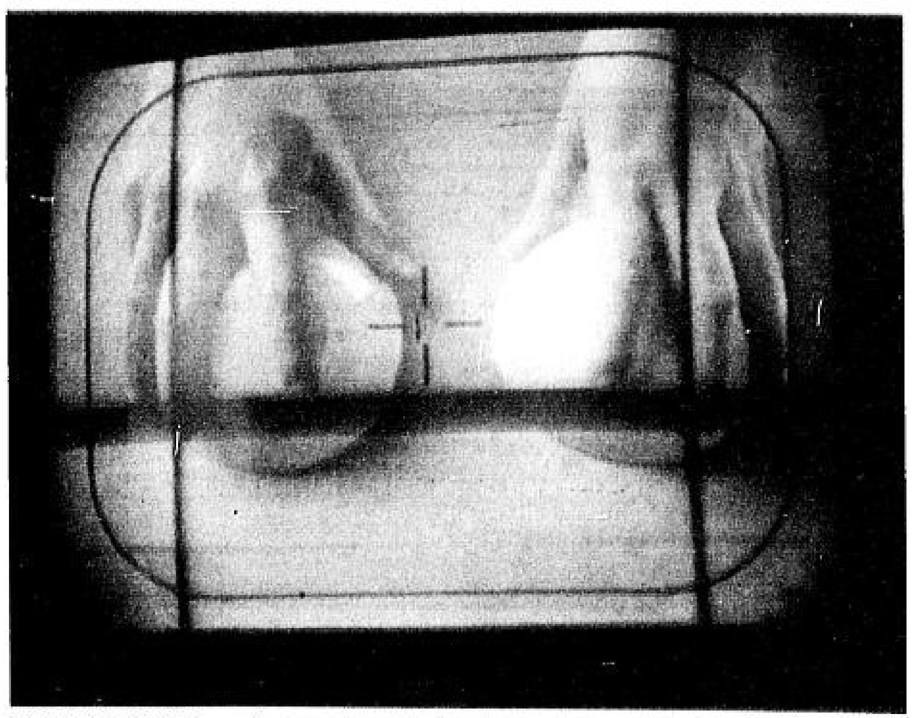
Though smaller than the other 4x4's, the Ranger's 2.5L Turbo Intercooled Diesel SOHC engine gives it indomitable will to traverse rough terrain.



FROM THE DRAWING board...



TO THE ACTUAL shoot...



THE FINISHED product

Ads sell life-saving ideas

(From page C1)

with a wedge sliced off to symbolize the damage done to a child's red blood cells when he is afflicted with leukemia. The series of poignant TV advertisements shows several little boys who are in a hurry to grow up. "Pamana" shows a frail but smiling boy eagerly giving away his prized possessions to his friends.. Then the words, "Leukemia can be reversed at an early age," flashes on the screen. "Give him more time to play." Particularly endearing is another one that shows a little boy in a hurry to get married ("Let him marry at the right time") And the third one, which depicts another little boy blowing out his birthday candles and adding some more with much impatience, fearful that he may not have enough time to fulfill his wishes in a lifetime ("Give him more happy birthdays") is really heart-tugging.

Life is a nonstock, nonprofit foundation established in 1995 to provide care and treatment to poor leukemic children in the Philippines. Life chair Dr. Alendry Caviles says that leukemia in children is highly treatable and can be cured. Treatment, however, can cost about P250,000 because of medicine and chemotherapy. The amount is often too prohibitive for parents of indigent children. In its own little way, JimenezD'Arcy wishes to contribute to the effort to fight leukemia by creating advertisements that will hopefully move the hearts of the public to share their blessings with these children.

The agency's latest advocacy campaign focuses on the risks when a woman refuses or takes for granted the all-important mammogram. Kara Magsanoc-Alikpala, a breast cancer survivor and founder of I Can Serve, a foundation that seeks to raise public awareness of breast cancer and at the same time empower breast cancer patients and survivors, says that the top two reasons women refuse to have a mammogram are basically fear and ignorance. Fear comes from hearing all those horror stories about how painful a mammogram can be and the possibility of being diagnosed with cancer. Little do they know, however, that the discomfort of a mammogram is nothing compared to the pain of the disease itself. Undergoing a mammogram is actually time and money well spent.

The top two reasons women refuse to have a mammogram are fear and ignorance

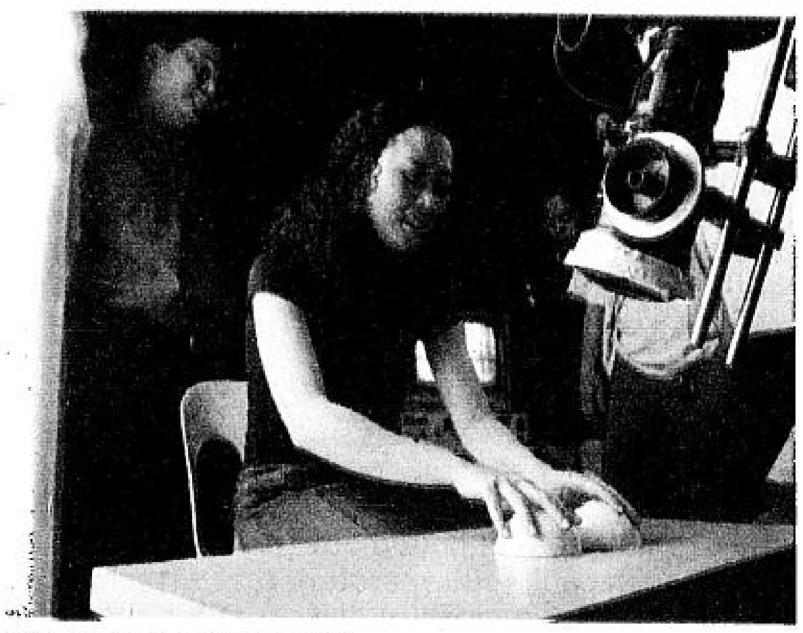
So one morning at the Filmex studios in Makati, the team from JimenezD'Arcy (Jenny Lao, Raoul Panes, Paul Suarez, Abby Jimenez, Lilit Reyes, Randy Tiempo, Nathan Javier, Richie Garcia and Randy Aquino) and the production staff simultaneously shot two televisions ads (breast cancer and the first in the series of leukemia ads) which started to air on GMA 7 and ABS-CBN on Sept. 15.

Randy Aquino, the agency's director for planning and research, says the breast cancer campaign really struck close to home as his own mother is a breast cancer survivor. "She was diagnosed at borderline stage 3," Aquino says.

The whole breast cancer advocacy campaign took three months—from planning to actual execution. "Everyone gave their services pro bono and even the talent fees of the children who came out in the ad were at very discounted rates," Aquino adds. The leukemia ads were directed by Henry Frejas while the breast cancer by Jessie Pastor. The ads, he says, are really the work of many people and companies who willingly gave of their time and talent generously—Larry Manda, Filmex, Voice Box, Optima, The Music and Sound Gallery—to help raise public awareness for Life and breast cancer.

Both television stations, for their parts, donated precious airtime for the ads that will run until October. Clearly, the rewards for the agency and the people behind these ads are intrinsic and the exercise of creating these campaigns is definitely an act in the giving of oneself to help make the lives of Filipino women and children a little better.

E-mail the author at cbguballa@inquirer.com.ph



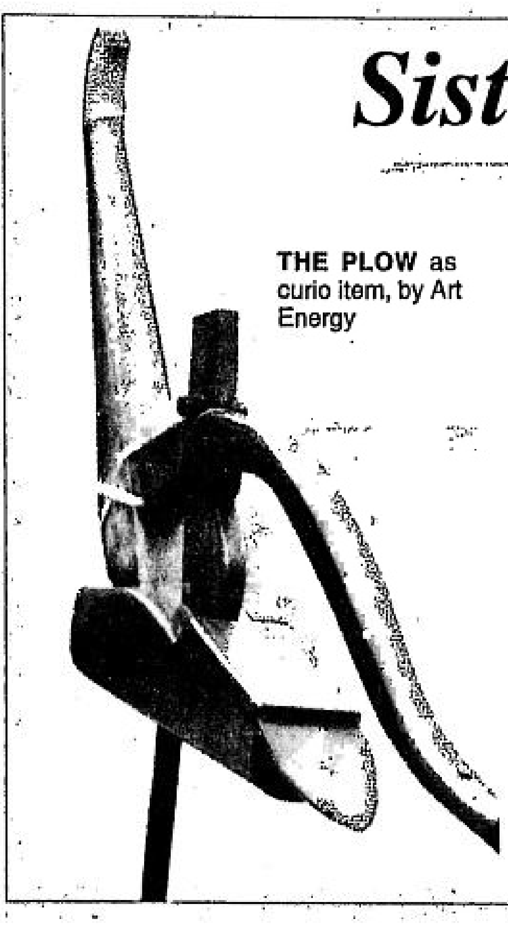
JENNY Lao ponders a move.

THE DIRECTOR angles for a shot.

SETTING up the Life ad

ACTION! Give him more happy birthdays.

Sister act at trade fair



THE PLOW as curio item, by Art Energy

THE NEGROS Trade Fair at SM Megamall, Sept. 26-30, will feature products by trendsetting women entrepreneurs Cathy and Christine Sicangco.

The sisters, who will have separate booths at the fair, are breaking ground for other women, having set up export businesses in fields that were traditionally the preserve of men.

Cathy is into furniture with her Art Energy (AE), while Christine makes lamps and other lighting designs for her Christine Sicangco Lighting Design Inc. (CSLDI).

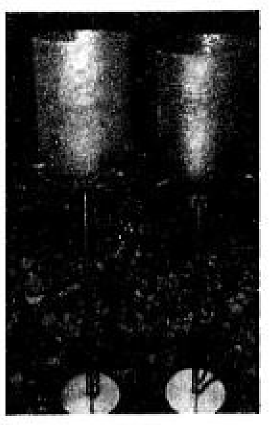
The sisters grew up in an entrepreneurial environment. Their dad, Homero, a pediatrician, was also running a farm. Mom Conchita managed the famous Bob's Restaurant.

Both Cathy and Christine are married to men who are their partners in every sense of the word. Cathy's husband, Felix Hingad, is an architect like her. Christine married Jovi Gonzaga, an electrical engineer. Both couples work as teams in their factories.

Aside from furniture, AE also produces furnishings and small items like napkin and decorative items. CSLDI, on the other hand, makes lampshades.

ART Energy's interpretation of the lounging chair

THE SICANGCO sisters, Cathy and Christine, with their supportive husbands, Felix Hingad and Jovi Gonzaga

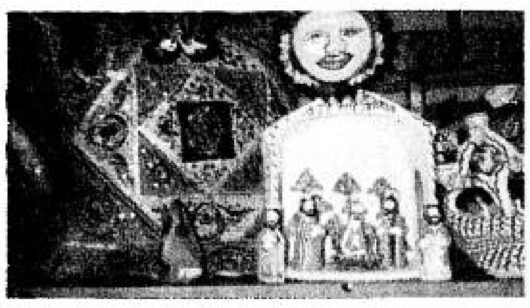


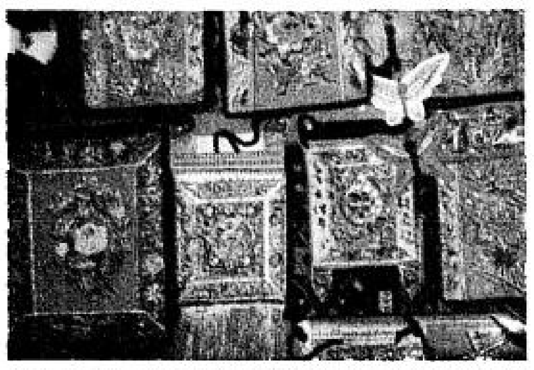
LAMPSHADES from CSLDI

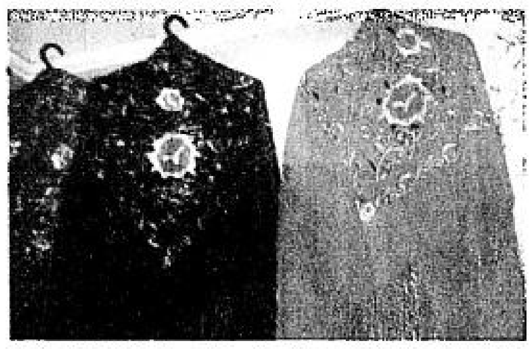
Unifem pre-Christmas bazaar set

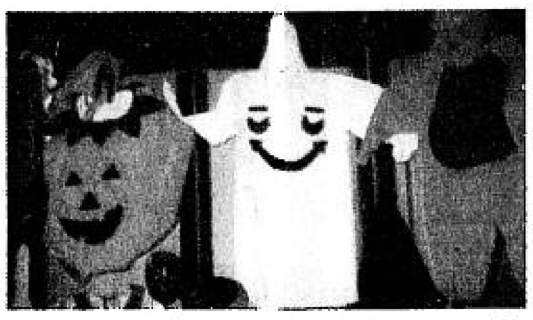
(From page C8)

from India, celadon from Thailand, woodcarvings from Indonesia, hand-tooled silver decorative items from Cambodia, lacquer pieces and figurines from Vietnam, porcelain and jade decor from China, European silver and crystals, Spanish fans and mantones, colorful crèche and embroidered cushion covers from Mexico, coffee and tea machines from Italy, terra-cotta vases, painted potteries and native handicraft, picture frames and figurines fashioned from lahar, hand-lown crystal vases, colored glass and wrought-iron candleholders, children's, ladies and men's wear, shoes, bags and fashion accessories, linen and embroidery, Christmas angels and holiday ornaments, original gift and novelty items, homemade delicacies and many others.


COLORFUL handpainted creche and cushion covers from Mexico


HAND-EMBROIDERED bags and cushion covers from Mexico


COLORFUL handembroidered "mantones"


A VARIETY of customes for Halloween and other occasions

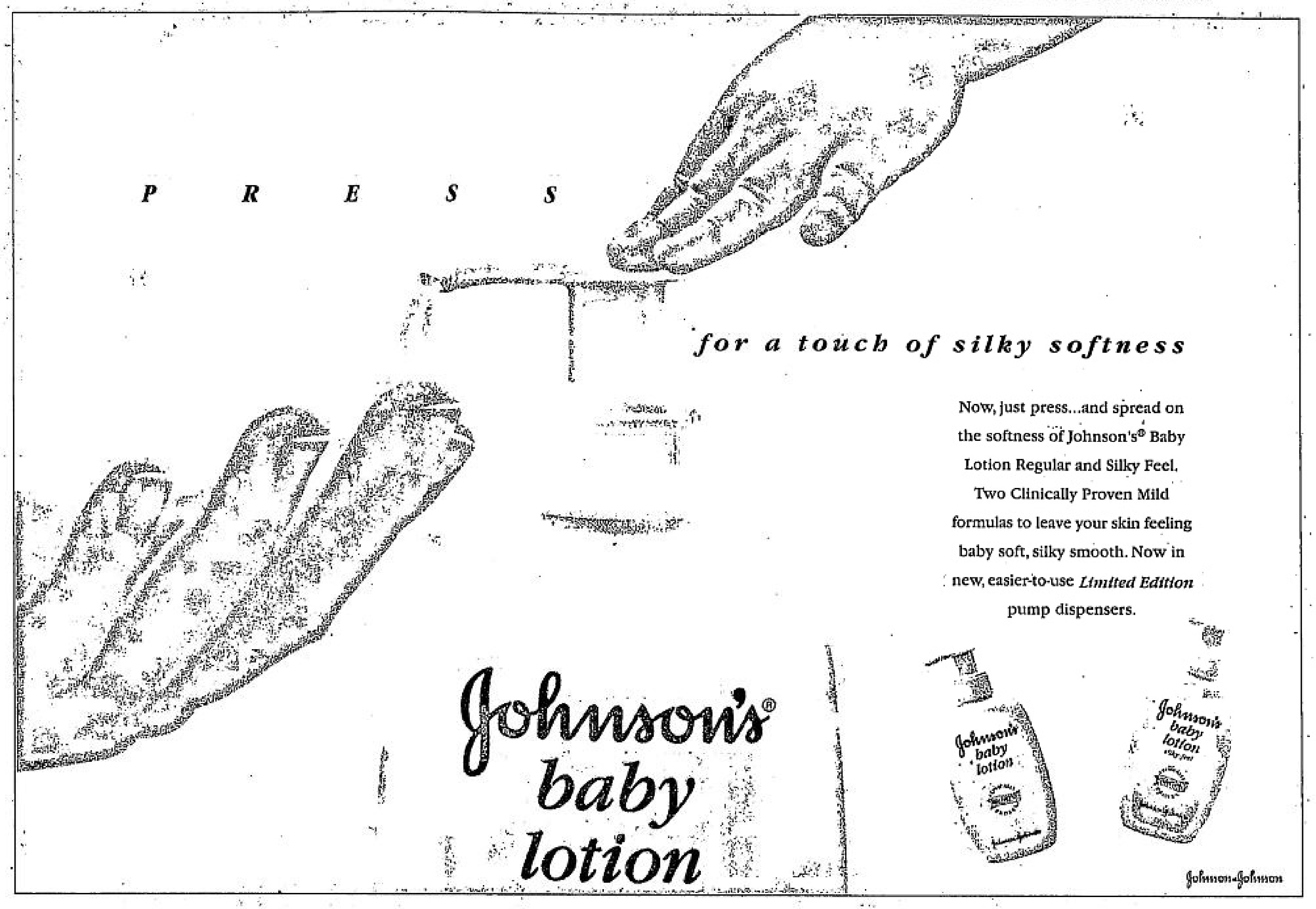
Special counters will offer d'amonds and precious stones, antique gold jewelry, original creations of cultured and natural pearls and intricately designed silver pieces.

Tickets to the bazaar are at P50 each. All major credit cards will be accepted.

Unifem chair Olga Severino Martel is also chair of this year's bazaar. Members are Virma Vergel de Dios, Guia Rijk and Linda Panlilio, who is Unifem president.

The committee is now accepting reservations from vendors. Call Angie or Tessie at 816-6326, or Luz at 531-8381 or 531-4911, local 212.

EXQUISITELY crafted papier mache angels, santas, belens, on sale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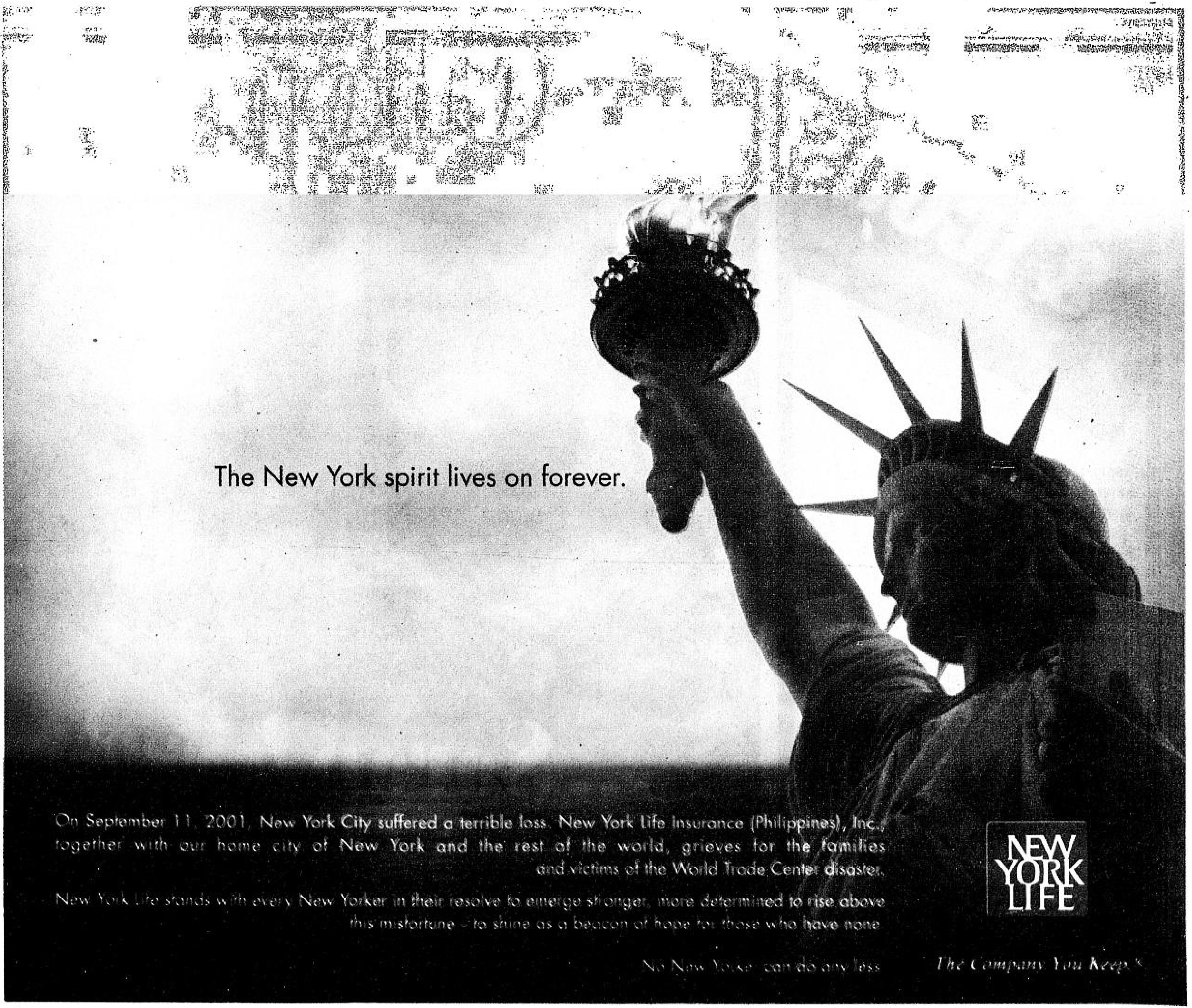
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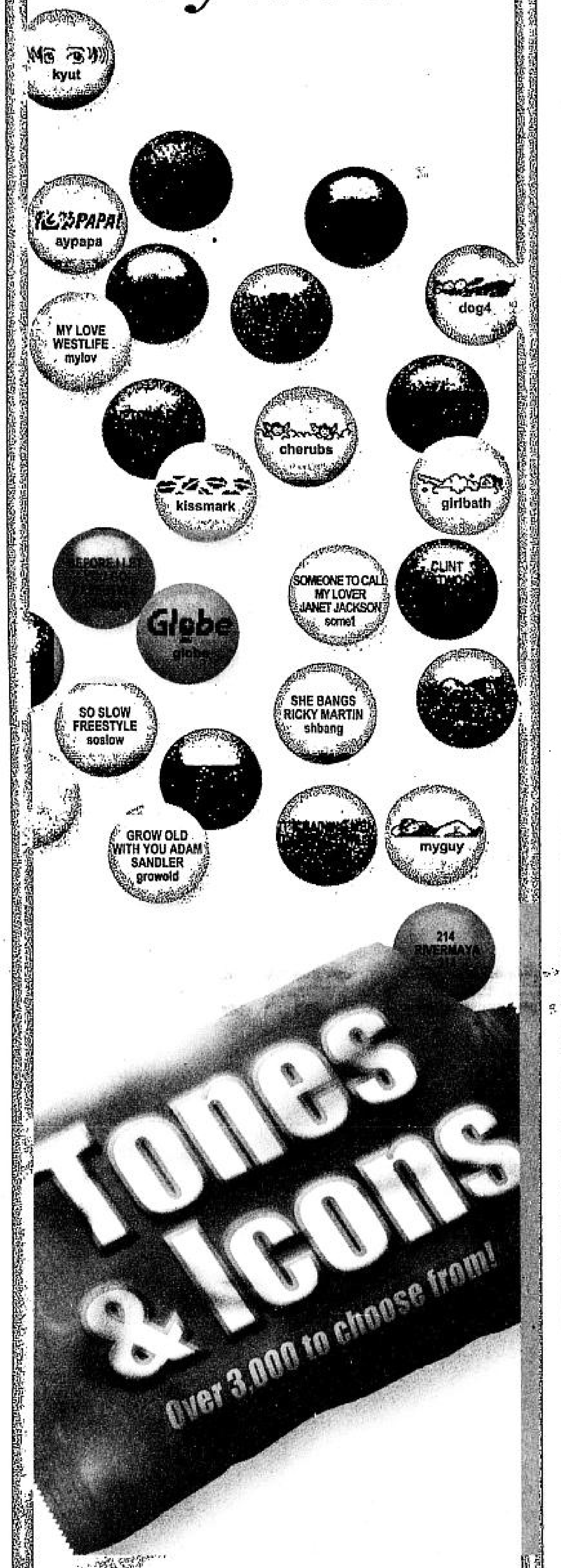
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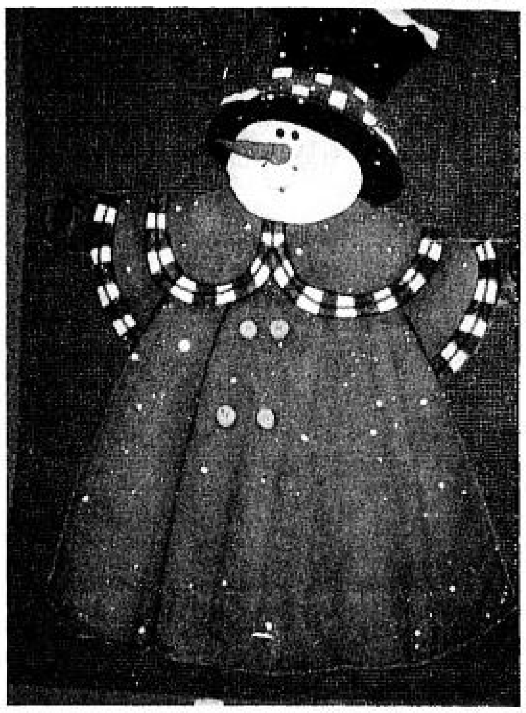
Unifem pre-Christmas bazaar set

THE UNITED Nations Development Fund for Women (Unifem) Bazaar will be held on Oct. 7, at 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Dusit Hotel Nikko, Ayala Commercial Center. It promises to be more exciting with choice products from specially handpicked vendors. Proceeds will go to the economic empowerment program of Unifem, a fund specifically set up to help improve the living standards of poor women.

On sale are antiques, art pieces and icons, authentic Matryoshka hand-painted dolls from Russia, silver items and silk and exotic fibers

UNIFEM/ p.C7



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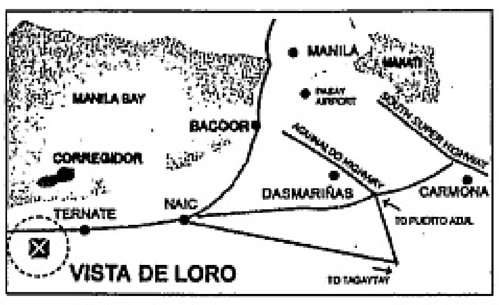
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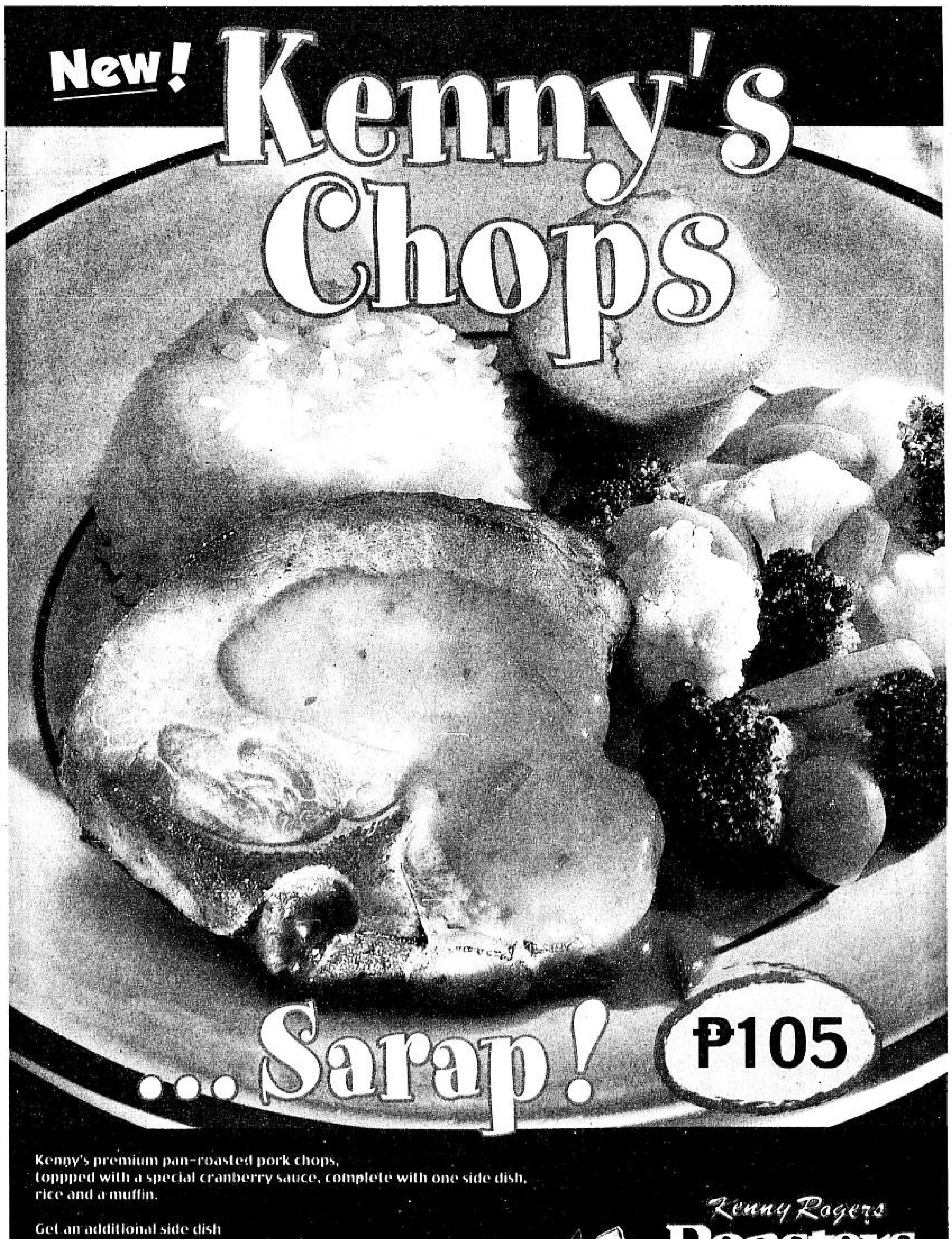
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Sunday LIFESTYLE

Soup kitchen feeds the soul

By Don G. Rapadas
Photos by Johnny Villena

THE LAITY of Pasig City has been conducting a unique ministry for street children, barkers, rugby boys, prostitutes and drunkards for three months now, helping them to rise from their deplorable situation and start anew.

The process, however, is proving helpful not just to the beneficiaries but also to the volunteers in discovering what life is all about.

The Immaculate Conception Parish (ICP) in Malinao, Pasig sets up a soup kitchen at 10 a.m. to 12 noon, Wednesdays and Saturdays, at the church grounds. Starting with about a hundred beneficiaries, the soup kitchen now attends to about 350 people—about 70 percent children—especially on Saturdays.

Word-of-mouth has spread the project but even

SOUP/ p.D2

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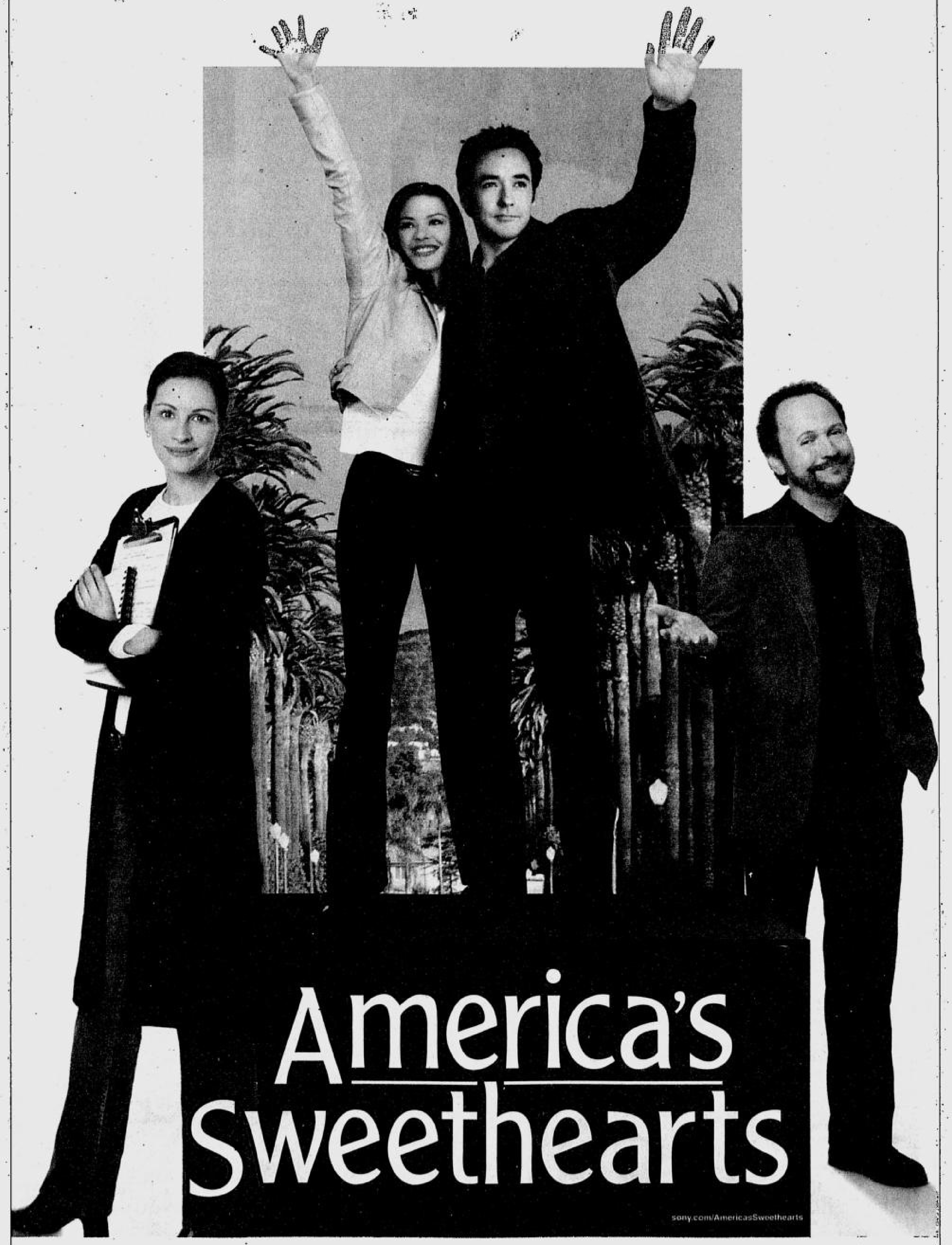
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Prime performers

BY ROWENA C. BURGOS
PHOTOS BY ROMY HOMILLADA

SOME customers become irritated after a few seconds of talking with Marvin Baliton, a sales crew at HerBench of Robinsons Galleria. Such reaction is understandable for the 27-year-old Baliton is a deaf-mute. But upon learning of his handicap from the ID he's wearing that indicates his name and disability, clients immediately apologize. Some even look for him when they come back to the store.

"He does not think of his disability as a barrier in fulfilling his dreams. For him, whatever normal persons can do, he can do, too. He can talk but it's hard to understand. So some customers just write what they want," says Baliton's wife Mildred. He has been disabled since he was 8 due to an overdose of antibiotics.

Baliton attended the Manila Christian Computer School for the Deaf. Then he worked in a fast-food chain in Makati, which named him Rookie of the Year for two consecutive years. "He's happy with his work at Bench because he's able to meet various people," Mildred says.

Baliton is part of the Prime Team, a group of elderly and people with disabilities hired by Bench as sales crew for its more than 50 outlets in the National Capital Region.

A brainchild of Bench chair Ben Chan, the Prime Team started in November 1999 when the stores were in need of more clerks to handle the mammoth crowd of holiday shoppers. The project received a positive feedback so that since then, the company has hired hundreds of elderly and people with disabilities. You will recognize them from their ID cards printed with the Prime Team logo pinned to their T-shirts.

Prior to this, Bench launched its part-time employment program for students.

The disabled in our country numbered about 919,332 in the 1995 census. And according to the Department of Labor and Employment, out of the 3,729 disabled work applicants, only 1,119 are accepted.

"There's a kind of discrimination against the disabled and the elderly in the working world. The disabled are highly trainable, and unless they're mentally impaired, can function as well as normal persons. On the other hand, many of our elderly are still strong and, moreover, have the experience and the skills. The Prime Team is Mr. Chan's way of addressing such critical situations," says Lucila Rabaya, personnel manager of Bench.

Chan has been happy with the outcome of the projects. So are the team members.

Never a barrier

Jaime Piamonte, 32, supported his computer course by working at a bank in Intramuros. He dreams of having his own computer but he can't afford it. With his salary at Bench, Piamonte, a deaf-mute, hopes to own one someday.

Born with no fingers, Enecita Openaria, 23, strongly believes that one's disability is not a hindrance to a successful life. *"Huwag mong isipin ang kapansanan mo kundi ang magagawa mo para sa sarili mo,"* she says.

The former telephone operator of the St. Martin's Hospital in San Juan works at Bench Farmers Plaza in Cubao. At the same time, she's taking up mass communication at Trinity College in Quezon City. She's set to graduate next month and dreams of becoming a newscaster in a radio or TV network.

"At first, I found my work at Bench difficult because I'm not cut out for the job. But since I love dealing with people, I have gotten used to it. My being a sales crew has even enhanced my skills in communication."

A high school graduate, Wilfreda Macabuhay, 18, is assigned at HerBench of Megamall A. The second in nine children, she dreams of taking up physical therapy. But since their father, a salesman, and their mother, a plain housewife, cannot support their education, Macabuhay and her 15-year-old brother were forced to stop schooling and work instead.

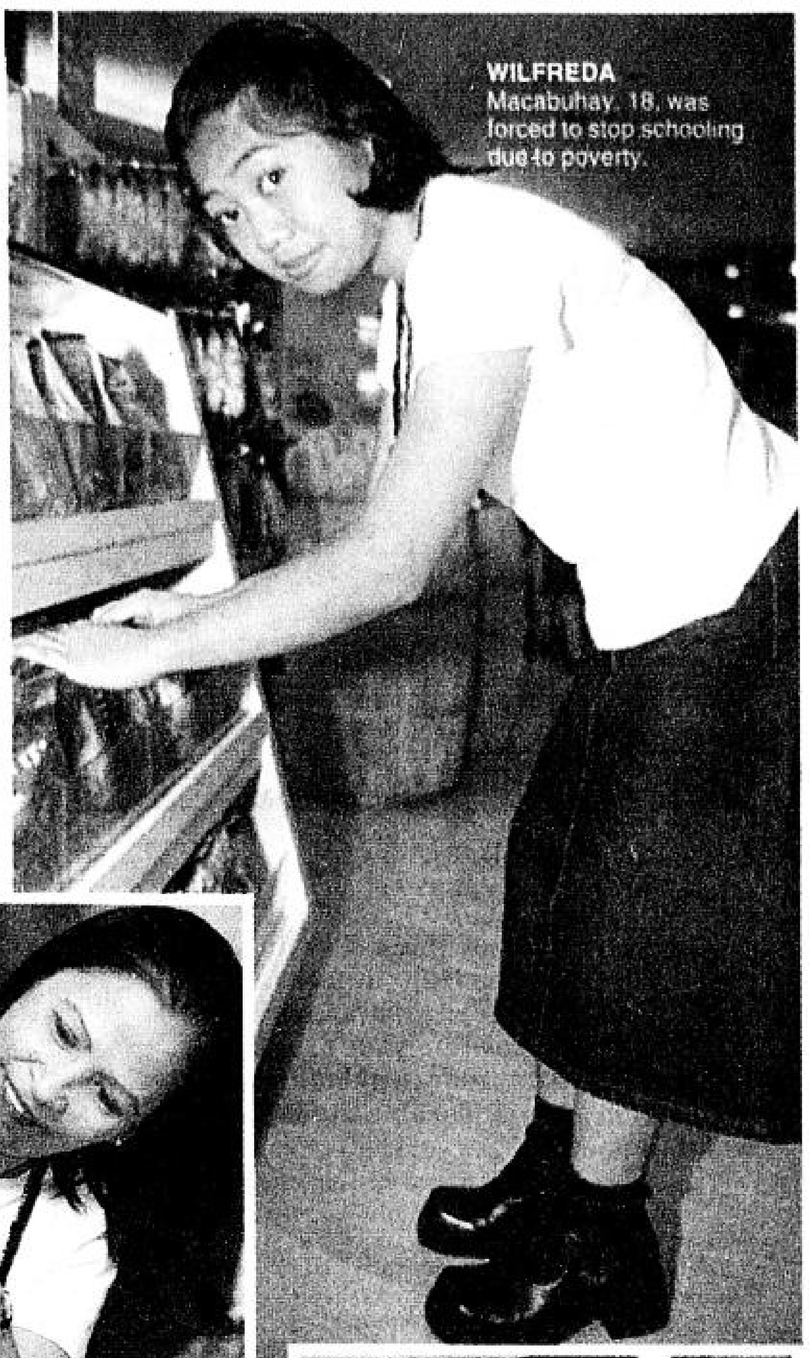
At 5, she was often sick which resulted in her being semi-polio—one leg is shorter than the other.

Once at the bottom of the employable list, the disabled and the elderly have been drafted into the sales crew of Bench with heartwarming results

NATIVIDAD Fermin, 51, is assigned at the children's section of HerBench, Megamall A

ENECITA Openaria, 23, has no fingers but her handicap has never been a barrier in achieving her dreams.

JAIME Piamonte, 32, a deaf-mute who's employed at Bench, Megamall A


WILFREDA Macabuhay, 18, was forced to stop schooling due to poverty.

ANITA Vasquez, 47, got tired of being a plain housewife so she applied at Bench Megamall.

Vicenta Bania, 31, is employed at HerBench Megamall A. She was born with no left hand, but this did not deter her from finishing a management course. She was then hired as a timekeeper and handled payroll in a bakeshop, which had more than 200 employees. She was excellent in her work that a bank wanted to hire her.

When she got married, her husband asked her to resign to take care of their child who's now 9 months old. But with the meager salary of her husband, a security guard in a restaurant, she convinced him to allow her to work. "I have to help him with the household expenses. While we're both at work, my sister-in-law takes care of our baby. *Sana 'wag naman kaming ma*-discriminate *at mabigyan ng* chance *na makapagtrabaho tulad ng mga normal na tao.*"

Active and independent

In our country, Filipinos at least 60 years old numbered about 3.7 million in the 1995 census, less than 6 percent of the population then. The figure is expected to rise to 13 percent by year 2030.

Most of them have an intense desire to be economically active and financially independent. They don't want to be dependent on their children for their food, medicine and household needs.

"I need to work in order to pay for expenses at home. *At para hindi rin ako manghina.* At my age, *sayang naman ang* opportunity *na ibinibigay ng* Bench *na makapagtrabaho. Sana nga huwag nang matapos ang* contract *ko,"* says Natividad Fermin, 51, who is assigned at HerBench, Megamall A.

Fermin, a former dressmaker for a garments factory, says she enjoys her job tremendously.

She also worked as domestic helper in Saudi Arabia, a baby sitter in Malaysia and a chambermaid in Taiwan. "My six children were still studying then. And I had to fulfill my and my late husband's dream: to give our kids an education." When the kids completed their studies and started raising their own families, they didn't allow their mother to go abroad again.

A plain housewife for more than two decades, Anita Vasquez, 47, "got bored" when their children, aged 24 and 25, started to work, got married and moved to another house. "At first, my husband, who works as a driver for a service vehicle for students, was hesitant to allow me to work. But he has seen how happy I am with my work at Bench. I'm amused with the customers. Okay *ang* treatment *sa amin.* The younger employees, on the other hand, remind me of our own children."

The elderly and the handicapped have proven their competence in their work and lived up to the physical demands of the job. For five months, they have to adjust to different work schedules: 9:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.; 11:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m.; and 12:30-9:30 p.m. They have a weekly rest day. Sometimes they are required to render overtime work.

"Since we have hired them, we've had favorable feedbacks and positive results in terms of customer relationship and team spirit. The regular ones feel challenged by The Prime Team and that keeps them on their toes," Rabaya says.

Customers admire their diligence and commitment to work. Some have become their friends that when they come back to the store, they look for that particular staff, Rabaya adds.

"The job has also developed their self-confidence and have become less shy of their handicap. They've shown much improvement since they joined Bench," says Rabaya.

Even if the elderly and the handicapped are hired as contractual workers, they're also given a performance evaluation. Some of those whose contracts have expired, Bench has recommended to other companies. One deaf-mute, who worked at Bench Megamall, was named Rookie of the Year and hired as a regular. He left the company and is now residing in Australia.

The Prime Team has indeed shown that they are valuable players. And they have been chalking up good scores. One elderly whom everyone calls Ate Cris ran after a shoplifter at Megamall branch and caught him. She received a commendation from Bench.

E-mail the author at rburgos@inquirer.com.ph

VICENTA Bania, 31, a management graduate, hopes that more people will give the disabled a chance to show their competence at work.

MARVIN Baliton, 27, a deaf-mute who works at HerBench in Robinsons Galleria

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Soup kitchen feeds the soul

(From page D1)

the hierarchy of the Archdiocese of Manila is not yet aware of it. Christian charity is done in the spirit of volunteerism.

Church of the poor

Mgsr. Manuel Gabriel, ICP pastor, says the project was inspired by the Jubilee Year 2000. As it ended, the parish started to think of what it can do to touch the lives of people and become a church of the poor. Edsa II also prompted the parish to work for an authentic social transformation by helping the poor become very much a part of the Church. Priests of the parish took the job as a challenge. "The soup kitchen is not just a project to help the poor but also to help us (parish workers) to be in touch with them to follow the Gospel. It is more a symbol of the people of God helping each other so that we can become a Church," Gabriel said.

Pasig has 10 barangays organized into sub-parishes, with councils that organize pastoral activities. People from Antipolo, Cainta, Marikina, Taguig, and Pateros also come to the city regularly. Gabriel noted that only about 40 percent of the total number of people who go to church in Pasig are actual parishioners—the rest are from nearby cities and towns.

On a recent visit to the soup kitchen, people were lining up for registration. The registration gave the parish a profile of the beneficiaries for follow-up later. People were divided into small groups. Children received faith instructions from catechists. Adults engaged in Bible reflection and received counseling on family or marriage. Others got a haircut or a shave, if they needed it, aside from the hot meal served to everyone.

The right reasons

Millete Marcelo, project coordinator, said they had 60 to 80 volunteers. Funding comes mostly from pledges of individuals, barangays, organizations, local schools and priests. Last Aug. 4, on the occasion of Clergy Day, priests sponsored the activity and even served the food. "Our sponsors even ask to have a second time. They really love to be a part of the project," Marcelo said. A soup kitchen service costs them about P2000 on a Wednesday and P4000 on a Saturday. The kitchen now needs one sack of rice for a single serving.

Gabriel tells his volunteers they should have a personal commitment to be with and serve the poor. Most of the volunteers are ordinary people who apparently do not mind their own poverty and who understand the value of service. Cesar Fulgencio, community outreach coordinator of the adjacent Pasig Catholic College, brings along his students to participate. *"Dito ko nakita sa* soup kitchen *ang pagtugon ng* Simbahan *sa mga pangangailangan ng mahirap. At kahit mahirap din kami, 'yung paglilingkod namin dito ay hindi kayang bilhin ng pera,"* he said.

Another volunteer, Donna Cruz, says, "Every time I see the poor, *gaano man sila kabaho o kadumi, kahit dumikit ang amoy nila sa damit ko,* I see God in them."

The soup kitchen started only about three months ago but the parish is gratified by results of its service. The poor have begun to reciprocate their charity. Gabriel relates how barkers outside the church arranged alternative transport for them once so they could attend a planning session in Antipolo. Kitchen coordinator Marietta Nadal says she was approached by *sampaguita* vendors who have gone to the soup kitchen to give her part of their day's income as their tithe. *"Kahit anong hirap nila, natututo silang magbahagi. Doon ko napatunayan na kung ano 'yung ibinigay mo sa kanila, doble pa 'yung isusukli nila,"* Nadal notes.

The peace and order situation has improved and the number of beggars dropped in the area near the church. Beggars say they do not feel the need to beg anymore as they are being taken care of and feel a sense of belonging.

No dole-out

Monsignor Gabriel makes it clear the soup kitchen is not and will never be a dole-out. He says it is only an instrument to be in solidarity with the poor. Other programs will also be implemented including skills training, job placement and housing projects. Sub-parish coordinators go around to get the profile of local residents and determine their situation, as well as their skills. The data will be used by the parish to help people set up small businesses or find jobs. The parish coordinates with Caritas Manila, the Makati Ecclesiastical District Council and other municipalities.

The soup kitchen is teaching both volunteers and the poor to care, to be more sensitive to the needs of others, and leave their comfort zones to find meaning in their lives. From a simple gesture of feeding the hungry, the people of Pasig have found Christ in the face of each person they encounter.

For more information on the Soup Kitchen of ICP-Pasig, call 641-1784 or 641-3460.

ABOUT 350 people, 70 percent of whom are children, come for the feeding on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

WOMEN who have found solidarity with the poor

EXTRAORDINARY GIVERS. Ordinary women and men have volunteered as cooks, servers and helpers in the kitchen of Msgr. Manuel Gabriel (center).

Cebu's four conductors debut

THE CEBU-BASED Peace Philharmonic Philippines (PPP) held the second event of its 2001 concert season at the spacious foyer of the Cebu Plaza Hotel. More than 800 people attended what Ingrid Sala Santamaria called a Philippine-British Friendship Concert.

CEBU
CEBU

Jaime Picornell

The program focused on two works by Sir Edward Elgar—the Concerto for Cello and Orchestra in E Minor, and the Enigma Variations, both featuring the excellent Filipino cellist **Renato Lucas** as soloist.

Ingrid as chair and her sister-in-law **Susan Montenegro Sala** as president of the Salvador and Pilar Sala Foundation, which supports the PPP, issued a statement that stressed that peace could be achieved in the spirit of unity. In this particular case, through music. It was indeed timely and tugged at everyone's heart strings.

Adrian Brown, who conducted the PPP last year, came from London but became indisposed at the last moment (a phone call reportedly caused his devastation) that he was unable to direct the orchestra. Four equally qualified gentlemen, taken from the ranks of the PPP's faculty, took turns wielding the baton and were greatly applauded.

Sam Costanilla was extremely suave as program host. **Leopoldo Lopez** conducted the Philippine National Anthem and "God Save the Queen"; **Roberto del Rosario** conducted the opening number, Antonino Buenaventura's Symphonic Poem for Orchestra; **Ariel Perez** took charge of the Elgar cello concerto.

Jeffrey Solares, who grimaces when we call him the PPP's genius-in-residence, brilliantly conducted the Enigma Variations, literally bringing the house down. For the encore, Del Rosario returned to the podium for the most popular movement from Elgar's immortal "Pomp and Circumstance."

If the world has three tenors, Cebu has its four conductors, everyone said at our table in the spacious garden of **Sue Gray** at Paradise Village during the after-the-concert dinner. Two days later, Brown had recovered enough to conduct the same program in Dumaguete City, first at the Luce auditorium of Silliman University and then at the Lamberto Macias Sports and Cultural Center.

Extending a grand welcome to the PPP in Dumaguete were Gov. **George Arnaiz** of Negros Oriental, the city's new mayor **Agustin Perdices**, the lovely **Mariant Escaño Villegas**, a provincial board member; Silliman U president Dr. **Agustin Pulido**, and **Jane Faburada**, the schools division superintendent of the Department of Education in Region VII.

Show in Bush neighborhood

If plans do not miscarry, Ingrid Santamaria and Sue Gray would now be in Gooserocks Beach, an exclusive enclave in Portland, Maine. They are houseguests of **Glendon** and **Vermen Rowell** (née **Verallo**, from Cebu) who have this fabulous residence overlooking a sweeping view of the Atlantic Ocean. The couple has a distinguished neighbor, former US President **George Bush**.

Ingrid is giving a concert there this week. After that, she goes to concertize some more at Royal Palm Beach in Florida. **Reynaldo Reyes**, who is based in Maryland and who went around the Philippines recently with Ingrid for recitals in Tuguegarao and in Catanduanes, will join her in the US concerts.

Their first joint performance will be at the home of Ingrid's brother-in-law **Jess Santamaria** and his wife **Victoria**, where they will play works by Schumann and Rachmaninoff. Next stop is the Royal Palm Beach Historical Society auditorium where they will perform Grieg and Tschaikovsky pieces. The show is sponsored by the Crestwood Performing Arts League, which gave Ingrid a Hall of Fame award in 1991 after five performances for them. The first was in the '80s, a fund-raiser so the league can buy a piano.

Ingrid is expected in Cebu before Sept. 28. She leaves with the PPP Junior Ensemble for a concert in Butuan City, conducted by Jeffrey Solares. The group is excellent and Cebu is looking forward to three concerts scheduled in the next months at the Marriott Hotel.

Two more concerts

The PPP has two more concerts to complete the 2001 season. The next one on Oct. 26 is a Philippines-Netherlands Friendship concert and in observance of 2001 as the International Year for Dialogue among Civilizations. It will be at the lobby of the Cebu Plaza Hotel. **Josefino "Chino" Toledo** will conduct works by Tapales, Reinecke, Milhaud and Bernstein. **Gerry Varona** is the viola soloist.

As part of its outreach program the PPP sails to Bacolod City to perform the same program on Oct. 27 at 4 p.m. at the University of St. La Salle Gym; and on Oct. 28 at 3 p.m., at the Bacolod City Convention Plaza Hotel ballroom.

To close the season there is a Beethoven Festival on Dec. 7 at 7 p.m., at the Cebu Plaza Hotel, with Japanese Maestro **Tetsuji Honna** conducting the PPP. Violin soloist will be **Alfonso Corpus Bolipata.** It goes without saying that this event is dubbed the Philippines-Japan Friendship Concert. The group will move to Bohol for a performance in the Loboc Church on Dec. 8 at 5 p.m., and another one at 4 p.m. on Dec. 9 at the Bohol Plaza in scenic Panglao Island.

Aside from Ingrid and Susan, also deserving of praise are members of the PPP faculty who think nothing of joining the ranks of the musicians whenever a major concert takes place. Take a bow: Jeffrey Solares, Ariel Perez, Roberto del Rosario, **Virgilio Ylaya, Melissa Exmundo, Misako Endo** and **Masayuki Nishimura** who are volunteers from Japan.

Bravo, bravissimo, PPP: concert master **Mark Hamlet Mercado** and the rest of Violins I—**Brian Cimafranca, Melissa Cipres, Rodelio Glodove, Lorgina Tubod, Lemuel Rey Lecciones, Hannah Louella Magdadaro, Jessica Trinidad** and **Princess Christine Ybañez.**

Violin II—**Norwena Belocura, Ebb Galindo, Sarah Gonzalez, Catherine Magallon, Maricel Manus, Wayneth Ibales, Janice Magallon, Joseph Balo** and **Franz Lanzaderas**; Viola—**Carlo Araneta, Genevivé Galindo, Hara Vitaliana Hernando** and Gerry Varona; Double Bass—**Norman Glodove, Jerome Rezaba, Christopher Manus** and **Jason Colina**; Cello—**Gerry Gonzalez, Lemuel Bryce Lecciones, Maria Doris Malaque, Willy Patalinghug, Jibbie Rose Reyes** and **Aristeo Solares.**

Flute—**Peter Martin Alvarez, Kristina Roderos** and **Sheila May Ycong**; Clarinet—**Christian Roy Abaiz** and **Osidel Rendora**; French Horn—**Jesus Basilio Sable, Mark Axel Melecio, Leo Lopez** and **Apolonio Disimulacion**; Oboe—**Leosa Laramie Mercado** and **Niño James Banares**; Tuba—**Bjorn Gaviola**; Bassoon—**Magno Aquino Jr.**; Keyboard—**Abner Bono**; Trumpet—**Reydon Encinares, Warren Perez** and **Ritzie Amaya**; Trombone—**Caroline Go, Darrel Perez** and **Cleofas Quijano**; Percussion—**Cynthia Go, Hazel Magdadaro** and **Omar Mataganas.**

AFTER THE CONCERT. Negros Oriental's Rosario de Veyra Utzurrum, provincial board member Mariant Escaño Villegas, Ingrid Sala Santamaria and Sue Gray, an invaluable PPP volunteer worker

SUSAN Montenegro Sala

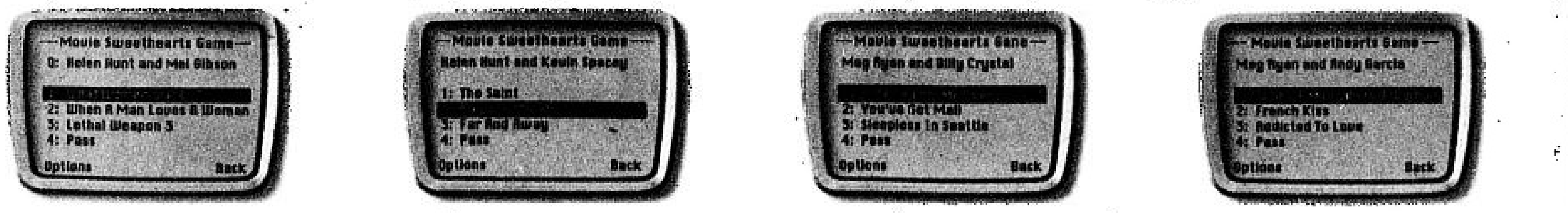
REHEARSING at the Cebu Plaza Hotel—Ingrid Santamaria, conductor Adrian Brown and cello soloist Renato Lucas with the hotel's PR manager Aissa de la Cruz

ROBERTO del Rosario conducted the PPP for whom he makes excellent musical arrangements.

How Much Do You Know About Hollywood Couples?
Play the Movie Sweethearts Game to find out more about...

THE SMART Cinema Club
America's Sweethearts

To play the game, match the couple to the movie.



It's easy! Just key in PLAY AS. You'll be asked to choose the movies that famous couples starred in.
To answer, simply press REPLY and key in the number (1, 2, 3, or 4) corresponding your choice. Press SEND.

What's more, you can also access official America's Sweethearts logos, picture messages, group graphics, and screen savers.

To access, key in **JOIN CINEMA** and send to **239**. Then follow the simple steps below.

To Get America's Sweethearts...	Key In...
Logo List of Keywords	LOGO AS and send to 239
Logos*	LOGO <keyword> and send to 239
Group Graphics Keywords	GROUP AS and send to 239
Group Graphics*	GROUP <keyword> and send to 239
Picture Messages List of Keywords	PIC AS and send to 239

To Get America's Sweethearts...	Key In...
Picture Messages	PIC <keyword> and send to 239
Screen Savers List of Keywords	SAVER AS and send to 239
Screen Savers**	SAVER <keyword> and send to 239
To play the Movie Sweethearts Game	PLAY AS and send to 239
To check points accumulated	DPOINTS and send to 239

All text messages sent are ₱2.50 each.

*Available on selected Nokia handsets only
**Available on Nokia 3310, 3330, and 8250

Note: If you are already playing a Smart Cinema Club game, quit first.

Promo Mechanics:

1. From Sept 23-26, 2001, all Smart Cinema Club members who download a logo, picture message, group graphic or screen saver get one computer-generated point each. The top 100 Cinema Club members with the highest points collected will win two free premiere movie passes each for America's Sweethearts at SM Megamall, Cinema 10, on Sept. 29, 2001, 8:00 p.m. To know the number of points accumulated, key in DPOINTS and send to 239.
2. Smart Cinema Club winners will be notified via text message or a voice call to their registered celfone number only.
3. Smart Money cardholders who use their card to buy any movie ticket at SM Megamall from Sept. 21-26 are entitled to a pair of America's Sweethearts premiere tickets.
4. Winners of both promos can claim the prizes on the night of the premiere, Sept. 29, 2001, 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., at the Smart Cinema Club Booth in SM Megamall, near Cinema 10.
    A. Smart Cinema Club winners must present their active Smart GSM celfone with the winning SIM number and valid I.D. w/ photo.
    B. Smart Money winners must present their Smart Money receipt (proof of purchase) used to purchase movie ticket/s in SM Megamall from Sept. 21 to 26. They can avail themselves of the promo only once.
5. Promos are valid for GMA residents only.

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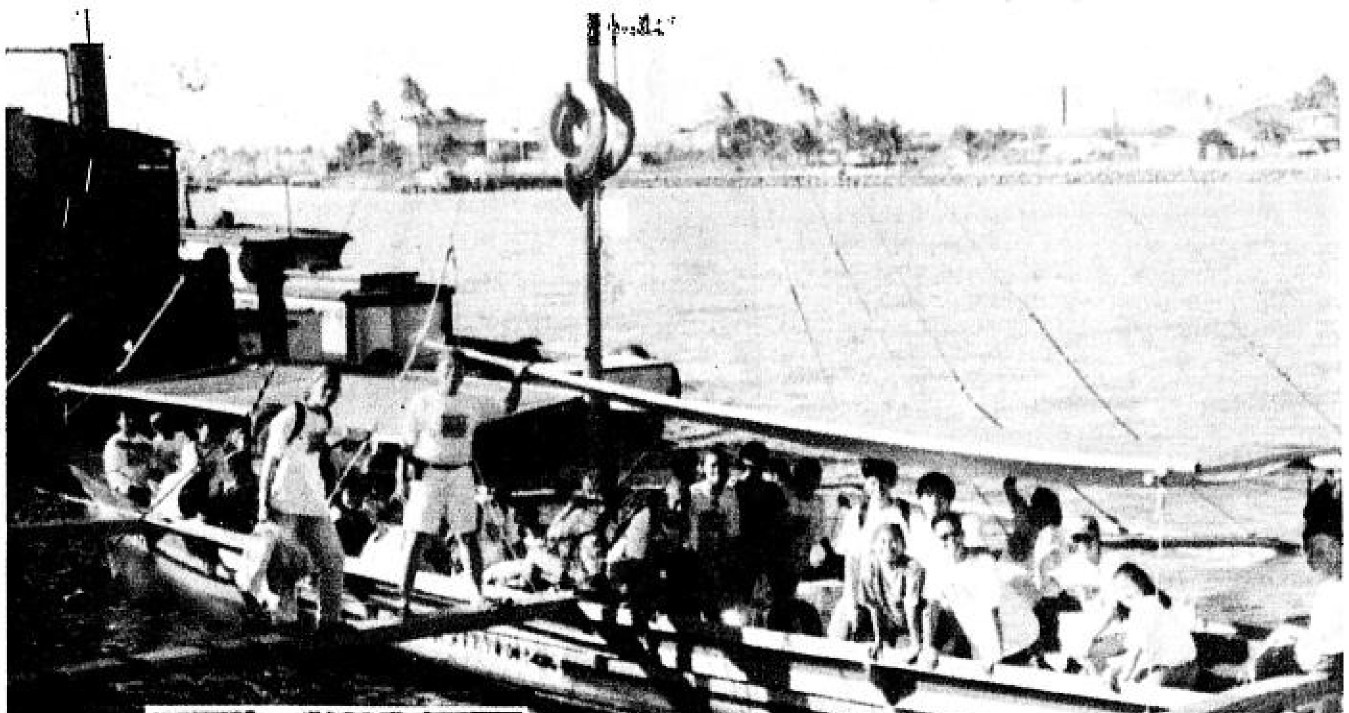
See flyers for more details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No.3124 Series of 2001.

SMART Money Use your Smart Money MasterCard to pay for a movie ticket and get two free premiere tickets!

AS community workers, volunteers help build a hut.



OFF TO A FAR-FLUNG Jesuit mission area in a banca

Sharing God's love through volunteerism

BY PIA ORTIZ-LUIS AND ROSE CABRERA

THE JESUIT Volunteers Philippines (JVP) story is a 21-year epic consisting of 580 (and more) tales of service and growth, of people offering a year or two of their lives to one mission: carrying Christ's ministry to those in need.

The stories include livelihood programs, teaching English and Mathematics, helping indigenous communities, organizing people, conducting prayer meetings, recollections and retreats. In over two decades now, JVP has been sending young men and women to different parts of the country to take on the roles of educators, campus ministers, parish workers and community organizers.

The program started in 1979 when several Jesuits of the Ateneo de Manila University and the Loyola House of Studies led by Fr. William "Bill" Kreutz, S.J., decided to offer graduates opportunities to help in different Jesuit mission areas in Mindanao.

The volunteers had no idea where they were going, except that they were headed for Mindanao. There were no systems and no rules to follow but the volunteers were introduced to the JVP core values of service, simplicity and subversion (being agents of change).

BLESSING of volunteers who are mostly Ateneo university graduates

Expanded coverage

Later, JVP moved to non-Jesuit and nonsectarian apostolates in different parts of the country, aside from Jesuit mission areas in Mindanao. It developed into a lay organization of young men and women who assist in social, pastoral, and development work of missions, apostolates, nongovernment organizations, schools and social development agencies. With more volunteers, JVP had to formalize and institutionalize its systems.

It got its own room and volunteers underwent an orientation and skills training seminar. Continuing psycho-spiritual formation is given during their period of service through support mechanisms like periodic regular meetings, publications and educational materials, community life and prayer. A midyear seminar assesses the volunteer's effectiveness and personal growth while a yearend seminar marks the end of volunteer work.

Core values were expanded to include S for spirituality in 1987 and S for solidarity in 1989. Although JVP continued to work closely with the Philippine Province of the Society of Jesus, the growing number of volunteers made funding from the Society inadequate. In May 1993, the JVP Foundation Inc. was launched, which aimed to institutionalize the community of men and women and to make programs financially stable by establishing a capital fund from individual and corporate donors.

Since then, over 580 volunteers have gone through the JVP program and more than 200 institutions all over the country have benefited from their work. In September 1998, the Joaquin "Chino" P. Roces Foundation Inc. awarded the JVP "for ushering the spirit of social responsibility and sacrifice into the lives of young people through a volunteer program that rewards them with only the joy of service as teachers, community organizers and parish workers in far-flung communities."

Between May 2000 and June 2001, JVP sent 30 volunteers to 20 different partner institutions all over the country.

Despite its lofty ideals and good work, JVP continues to have financial problems. It is still a long way from reaching its goal of setting up a P25-million endowment fund. But the foundation believes it will achieve its goal despite the worsening economic and sociopolitical climate.

Visit the JVP Central Office at 3/F Bellarmine Building, Ateneo de Manila University Campus, Loyola Heights, 1108 QC; call 426-6001 local 4880 or 927-9060, telefax 426-5908; e-mail jvpfi@ admu.edu. ph

In space, you reach the moon in 5 warpspeed seconds
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Gina de Venecia elected president of congressional spouses group

CIVIC leader and TV host Gina de Venecia has been elected again as president of the Congressional Spouses Foundation Inc. She is the only congressional spouse to hold the position thrice, during the ninth, 10th and now, the 12th congress.

In a general assembly held recently at the Batasang Pambansa, some 195 congressional spouses also elected other officers. The new officers include: Nikki Teodoro, vice chair for administration; Dr. Pat Gonzales, vice chair for operation; Marissa Andaya, secretary; Georgia Remulla, assistant secretary; Vicky Ablan, treasurer; Badette Barbers, assistant treasurer; Ciony Espina, auditor; and Cherry Umali, assistant auditor.

The other officers are Naida Angping, Jingle Badeles and Louie Locsin, public relations officers; Bebet Nograles, Nona Lobregat and Chit Baculio, sergeants-at-arms; Chit Monfort, Judith Cajes and Grace Chungalao, liaison officers for government, NGOs, and business and industry, respectively. Sal Dumarpa is legal counsel.

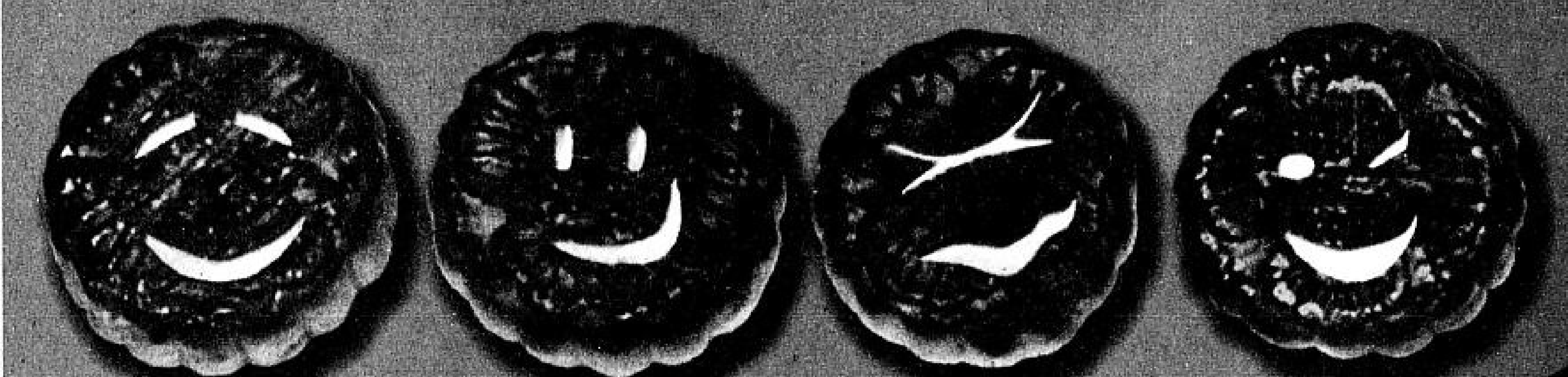
During De Venecia's two previous terms, the foundation established the Haven (National Center for Women) and 13 regional centers. This time, she is expected to pursue the construction of a National Center for Street Children to serve as a sanctuary for street urchins.

GINA de Venecia (standing, fourth from left) and the congressional spouses from Region VI: (Seated) Chit Monfort, Bing Dadivas, Patching Fuentebella, Beth Javier, a friend, Cosette Defensor, Jane Castro; (standing) Rio Diaz Cojuangco, Elsa Kapunan, Nikki Teodoro, Dr. Pat Gonzales and Emily Lopez

CONGRESSIONAL spouses from the Cordillera Autonomous Region: Liza Bulut, Olga Dangwa and Becky Domogan

DE Venecia with (standing, from left) Tessie Villarama, Dr. Pat Gonzales; (seated) Julita Villereal, Cherry Umali and Dimples Suchianco

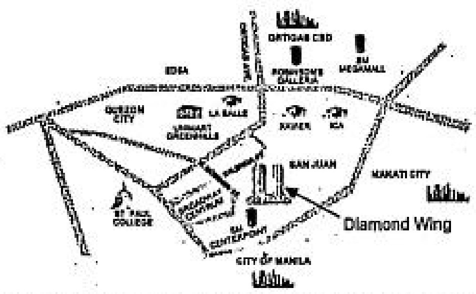
Lunatic promos. Crazy surprises.



Mooncake madness at DIAMOND WING

Harvest Moon
Festival Open House
September 22 to 23

The Diamond Wing at Valencia Hills celebrates the Mooncake Festival with a grand open house on September 22 to 23, 2001. Food and games, plus more surprises await you. Go loony. Come to the Mooncake Madness in Diamond Wing at Valencia Hills.



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Wyeth ProGifted 6 months to 1 year
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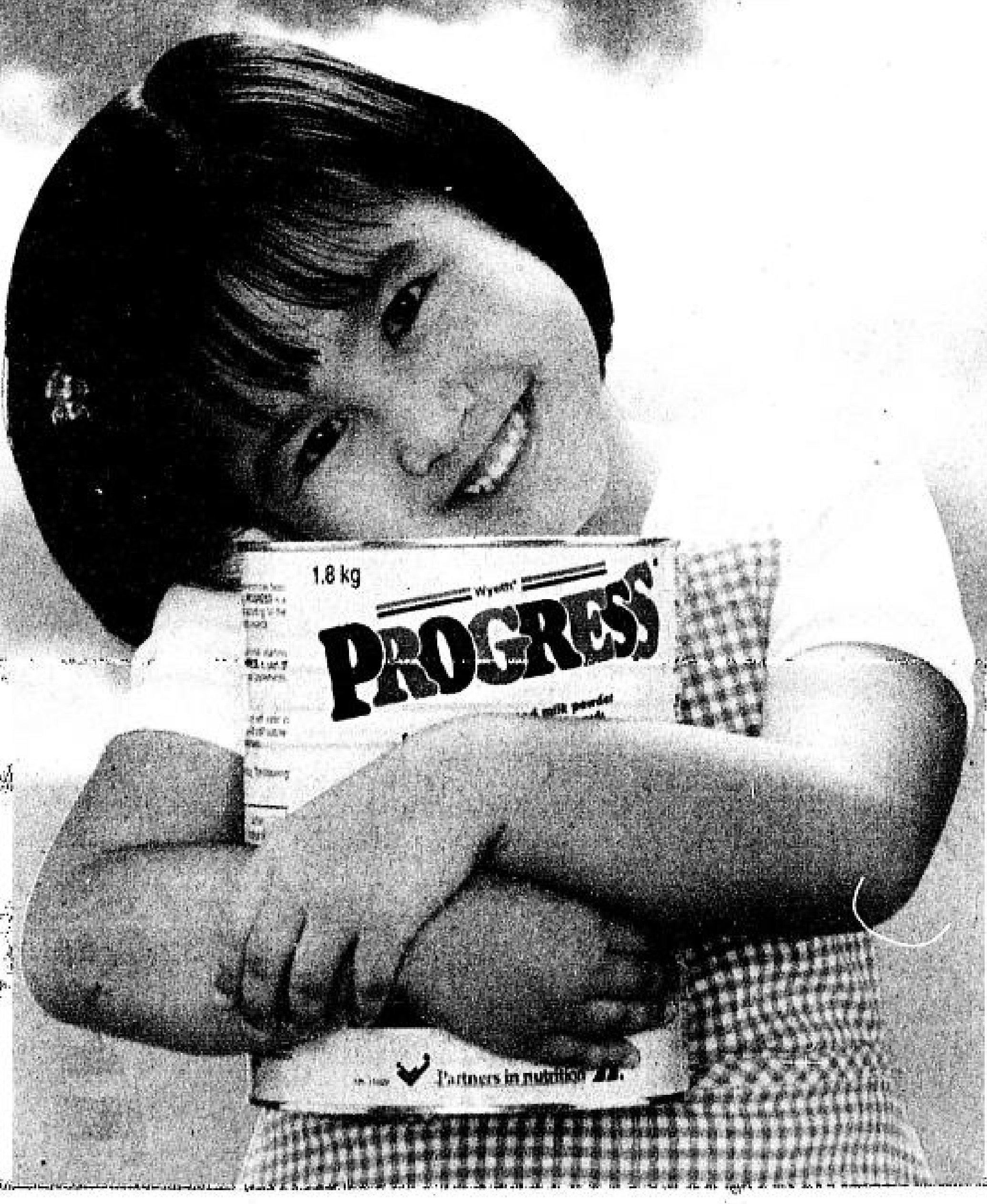
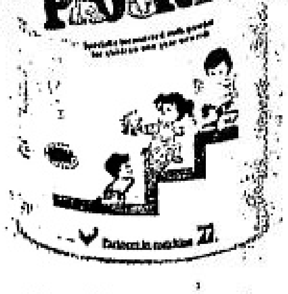




From 1 year onwards

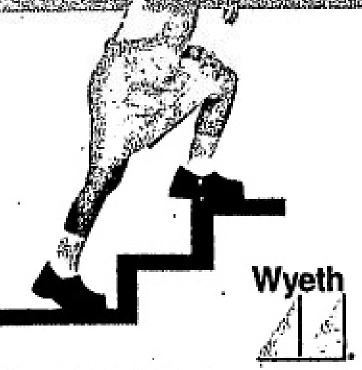
Even before she entered Nursery, Lana could already read. Since then, her reading skills have reached 3 levels higher than kids her age. It's no wonder she skipped Kindergarten.

Progress knows that what children drink helps determine how well they think, how fast they develop. That is why Progress has Wyeth's ProGifted ingredients. It is specially formulated with DHA and AA precursors to help children advance and make headway.

Give your child a chance to advance. From 1 year onwards, give your child Progress.

FASTER PROGRESS

Wyeth



Acting workshop in Sta. Ana

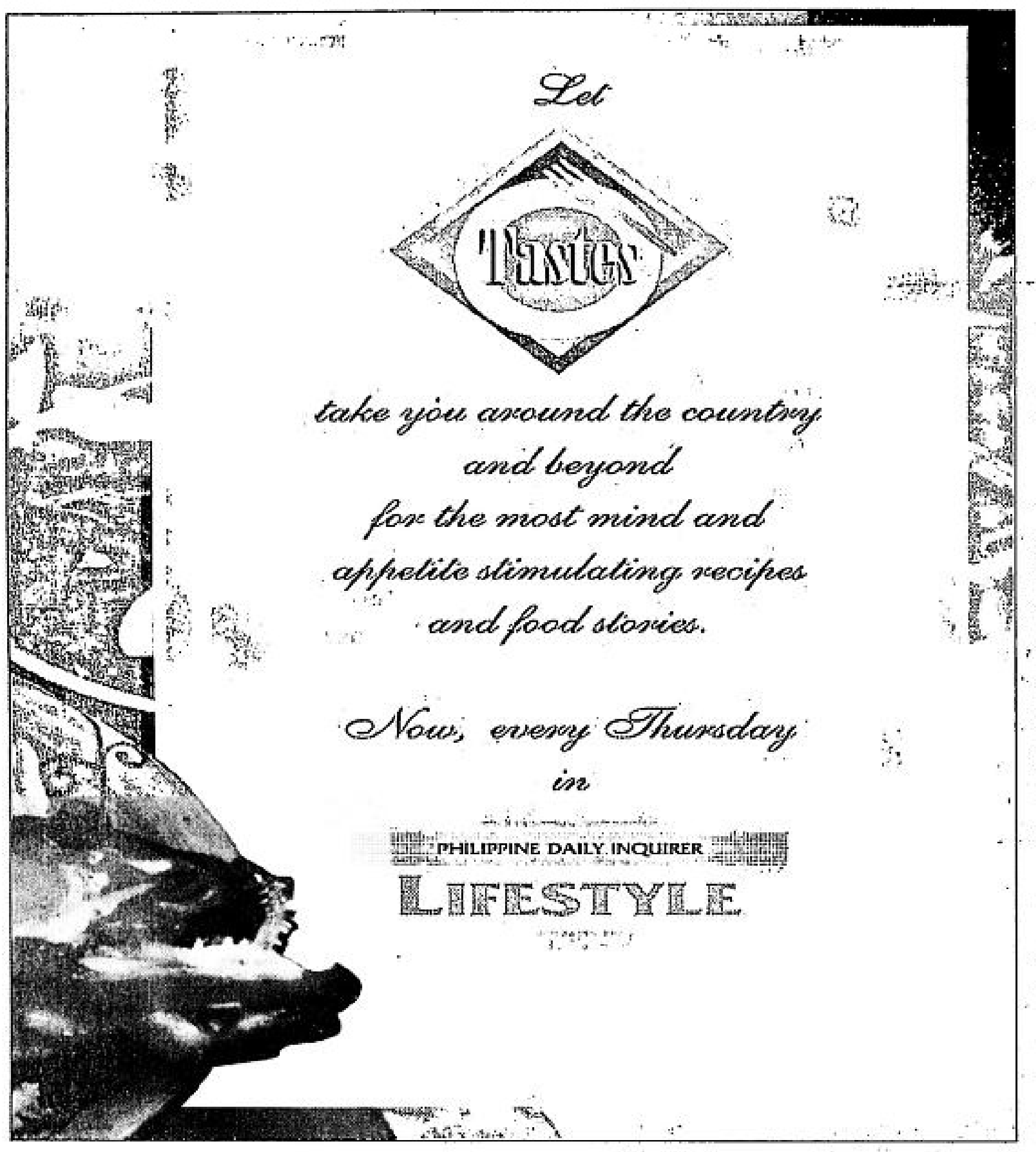
THE MOBILE Theater Foundation (Manila) Inc. and Tanghalang Santa Ana are holding a Basic Acting Workshop with Advanced Technique. The workshop is open to residents of the 6th District of Manila aged 16-35.

It will start Oct. 6 and will run for four successive Saturdays at the Sta. Ana Arts Center, Plaza Hugo, Sta. Ana.

Fifty participants will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. Application forms are available at the office of councilor Lou Veloso, 2358 Kalayaan St., Sta. Ana, or call 562-7094.

Librarians directory in preparation

THE BOARD for Librarians is publishing the Directory of Licensed Librarians in the Philippines. Licensed librarians are requested to submit the following information to be included in the directory: name (surname, first name and middle name), license number, designation, office and business address, telephone and fax numbers and e-mail address; home address, telephone number and e-mail address; cell phone number and LS school and degree(s). Send information to rdoperez@edsamail.com.ph or mail to R. Dante O. Perez c/o University of the Philippines Institute of Library Science, Gonzalez Hall, Diliman, QC1101.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LIFESTYLE

Angels of the Lord

MUSTARD SEED

Joseph Galdon, S.J.

MAY is Mary's month and so is October. But when we were in grade school, October was also the month of angels. We celebrated the Feast of the Archangels on Sept. 29 and the Feast of the Guardian Angels on Oct. 2 and prayed to the angels at the beginning of each class during the month of October. The feasts of the angels were very special events for us grade school kids. They ought to be special occasions for us old guys, too. I still remember very clearly what Sister Anselm told us: "The angels are our ladder to heaven. We will see the heavens open and the angels of God ascending and descending to us."

The story of the ladder of angels is from the Book of Genesis. Jacob left Bathsheba and set out for Haran on a journey in search of a good wife. When the sun set and it got dark, Jacob went to sleep on the ground. He had a dream when he slept. In the dream he saw a big ladder standing on the ground with its top reaching up to heaven. There were angels of God coming down to earth and going up to heaven on the ladder. The fathers of the Church interpreted Jacob's dream as an image of God's love, which he exercised through the service of angels. Jacob woke up and said: "Truly God is here in this place. He is here on earth and I never knew it!" Jacob built a little shrine there to commemorate his dream and called the place Bethel, which means "the house of God." Earth is the house of God, isn't it? So are our homes, if angels are going up and down on the ladder there.

Messengers

The Greek word for angels means messengers—messengers of God and our messengers to God. Jacob's ladder is a magnificent image of heavenly communication—of prayer and love. Archangels are special messengers. Most of our messengers are our guardian angels, but I am sure that once in a while we get a special message from an archangel, like the day when I decided that I was going to be a priest and not a doctor.

Michael was the archangel most often mentioned in the Bible. The Jewish word Michael means "like God." In a true sense, Michael is the executive secretary of God and represents God on many occasions. He's called the prince of angels and the guardian of all God's people. The Book of Revelation tells us that he was in charge of the loyal angels who expelled Satan from heaven for disobeying God because of his pride and vanity. The angel followers of Lucifer fought back against God, but they were overpowered by Michael and the loyal angels and lost their place in heaven. Because of their sin, they became devils in Hell. In "Paradise Lost," Milton says that God also sent Michael to the Garden of Eden to talk with Adam and Eve, to teach them, and to take care of them. Michael is the source of our strength!"

Gabriel is God's special messenger. He was sent to the prophet Daniel to be his instructor and explain Daniel's dreams to him. Gabriel also brought the special message to Mary that she was to be the Mother of God, and to Zecharian that his wife Elizabeth was to have a child who would be the forerunner of Jesus. Gabriel also came to Joseph to tell him that it was okay to marry Mary even if she was pregnant but said she had not had a sexual intercourse. I think it was probably Gabriel who told Joseph to take his family to Egypt to escape the threats of Herod. Even in the Islamic tradition, it was the archangel Gabriel who revealed the Koran to Mohammed. Gabriel has lots of special messages for us. He is probably the greatest of the angel teachers. He always brings God's message of love to us, wherever we are and whatever our problems may be.

Raphael is God's messenger of healing—physical, psychological and spiritual. He healed Tobit's blindness (physical healing) and provided Tobias, a great husband, for Sara who asked for a good husband from God. When God gives us a good wife or a good husband, that is the best of angelic psychological healing. I think it is Raphael, God's messenger, who convinces us to ask God for forgiveness of our sins and to pray as often as we can. That is the best of spiritual healing!

I often tell parents that if they name their son Michael, he will be God's special agent in their family. If they name him Gabriel, he will be God's messenger—from God to them and from them to God. If they name him Raphael, he will be God's healer. He will take care of the sick. He will console those who are worried, and he will pray for all of them. I tell parents that they should also name their daughters Michelle, Gabriela or Raphaela. We are all God's sons and daughters, but we also ought to be His angels—His agents, messengers and healers!

To guard and guide us

God also sends angels down the ladder from heaven to guard us and guide us on our way. Lola told four brothers: "Your guardian angel is sitting next to you. He also sleeps next to you at night. Make sure you pray to her!" Lola said that the guardian angel of a girl is always a male angel, and the guardian angel of a boy is always a female angel! That was not very theological, but it was a very interesting thought. Our guardian angels are our brothers and our sisters! My guardian angel's name is "Josefina"!

The 19th-century poet Robert Campbell says very beautifully: "The angels come to us as messengers of love. They come from realms of peace above. From homes of never failing light. From blissful mansions ever bright. They come to watch around us here. To soothe our sorrow and calm our fear." God did give his angels charge over us to protect us in all our ways. They will always lift us up with their hands lest we strike our feet against a stone. With them beside us, no evil will harm us here on earth.

Prayer

My prayer of the angels is: "Lord, you commanded your angels to come down to us on the ladder from heaven, to guard us on our way, and keep us from sin as you lead us on the path to love each day. Michael came to my aid many times in my troubles in life. Gabriel always came to me and gave me spiritual knowledge from you, Lord, when I needed to make decisions. You sent Raphael to heal me—many times physically, very often psychologically and a lot of times spiritually. The angels bring our prayers back to you, Lord, on the ladder to heaven. Our prayers are full of never ending and never failing hope that we will one day come into your presence and sing with the angels, 'Holy, Holy, Holy Lord! God of the angels. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosannah in the highest!' We pray that the angels will come back to earth on the ladder to rescue us when we die and lead us back up the ladder to our home in heaven."

Psalm 138 also says: "I thank you, Lord, with all my heart. You have heard the words of my mouth. In the presence of the angels I will bless you. I will adore you in your holy temple, both here on earth (Bethel), and in heaven when I die."

Holy, holy, holy Lord! Heaven and earth are full of your glory because of Jacob's ladder. Blessed are the angels who come in your name!

ACCELERATED!
from Junior Casa to Prep RENZO GONZALEZ
Progress user for 4 years

Wyeth ProGifted 6 months to 1 year
Wyeth PROGRESS 1 year onwards

From 1 year onwards

Renzo has always made his parents proud, specially when he skipped Senior Casa and graduated from Prep with honors. He is also an outstanding student with remarkable computer skills and an exceptional talent for drawing and painting.

Progress knows that what children drink helps determine how well they think, how fast they develop. That is why Progress has Wyeth's ProGifted ingredients. It is specially formulated with DHA and AA precursors to help children advance and make headway.

Give your child a chance to advance. From 1 year onwards, give your child Progress.

FASTER PROGRESS
Wyeth

BETTER NUTRITION: The Key to Faster Progress

The food you choose to give your child can impact on his physical growth and development. The health of a child can then affect his disposition. Every mother knows that when her child feels well, there is a greater probability that her child becomes happy, and what more would a mother want than to have a happy and healthy child.

This is where Progress helps. Good nutrition is crucial to the health and well-being of a child. Thus, Progress is specially formulated with essential nutrients to help your child advance and make headway.

A Nourishing Environment is a Learning Environment

The first few years of life is a crucial stage when your child begins to discover new things and be more independent. It is during this stage that your child begins to ask, listen and understand. The environment you will provide will be a substantial influence to your child's mental development. He needs to be surrounded with things that will encourage him to grow mentally. By giving him the right environment, you will be able to help him achieve the maximum mental capacity .

You may give him colorful books about things that would appeal to kids, such as cars, planes, animals or insects. Read these books to your child daily. With this, you will help him acquire the interest to read. You will be able to stimulate his mind and develop his appetite for learning. Soon you will find your child looking and reading materials on his own. Studies show that such children have a more avid desire to read successfully. They are more likely to read for pleasure as they get older.

Other enrichment activities may include introducing your child to other fields, such as art, music and writing. It is also best to let him help you with your daily chores, simple tasks that you can do together. This will help give him a real sense of responsibility.

Talk to your child on a level slightly higher than his own. Do this and you will find him learning new words. Baby talk may sound cute but he won't learn from it. Language skills are developed at a great speed at this age. By challenging your child to understand you, he will try to catch up using context clues. This is a great way to prepare him for school and be advanced for his age.

Play with him games that stimulate his thinking, such as simple word and memory games or jigsaw puzzles.

These are some ways to help nourish your child's mental growth and help him advance in his toddler years. Apply these smart moves and help your child make faster progress.

PROGIFTED INGREDIENTS

Progress contains DHA and AA precursors that help boost your child's mental development. Studies show that DHA (docosahexaenoic acid) and AA (arachidonic acid) precursors help improve IQ test scores and your child's ability to learn, judge, and concentrate.

Aside from DHA and AA precursors, Progress contains other nutrients which may also help promote brain development.

- Carbohydrates - Apart from being the body's chief source of energy, it also serves as the sole energy source for the brain and nerve tissue.

- Iron- Lack of iron may lead to iron deficiency anemia. This may affect a child's ability to learn and understand new information and may result in poor concentration and attention span. Some children who have poorer overall cognitive functioning and lower school achievement test scores were found to have iron deficiency anemia. That is why your child needs iron especially during his toddler years, a time when his physical and mental development is so rapid.

- Zinc - Although related to a child's ability to grow, zinc is also necessary for the production of brain neurotransmitters. Thus, a child's diet also needs to supply the right levels of zinc.

- The B vitamins - All B vitamins help give your child energy and help him build brain cells. Vitamin B1 and Niacin (which is part of the B complex chain) help the body produce energy in its cells, among other things. Vitamin B6 helps the body fight illness and infection, while B12 is used to develop red blood cells. The right amount of B vitamins in his diet helps protect him from slowed growth, anemia, eye troubles, nerve damage, and heart problems.

A healthy body helps develop a healthy mind. The proper balance of nutrients helps your child develop both physically and mentally. Each nutrient has its own specific function, and all nutrients work together. Although these nutrients may seem to aid only in your child's physical development, too much or too little of these may also prove to deter your child's mental development. The types of nutrients include easy-to-digest proteins, vitamins and minerals.

- Vitamin C - Children need vitamin C, both to form certain chemicals and to put others to use — including one of the B vitamins. Children who do not have enough vitamin C in their diet may experience weakness in their bones, anemia, and other medical conditions.

- Protein – This is one of the most important nutrients for rapid growth. It is important to ensure that toddlers and young children get the right amount of protein in their diet.

- Calcium - It is one mineral that children need for proper bone growth. Research shows that children need to have the right amount of calcium in their diet to lessen the risk of accidental bone fractures later in life.

- Vitamin D - Children need Vitamin D because the body uses it to help get calcium into the bones. Foods such as cheese and yogurt give children calcium but do not have any vitamin D. Dietary sources that are fortified with vitamin D, such as milk formulas, are a better choice than vitamin supplements.

- Vitamin A - This vitamin is important to help develop good eyesight. It also plays a role in making bone cells function properly. That is why children who do not get enough vitamin A may have problems such as night blindness and poor growth. They may also be less resistant to infection.

Give your child the opportunity to get ahead in life. Help boost your child's mental and physical development specially during the crucial first years of his life. When it comes to nutrition, provide him with the right nourishment with the help of Wyeth's ProGifted ingredients, which you can find in Progress.

GIVE YOUR CHILD A CHANCE TO ADVANCE

All children have the potential to be better at thinking and learning. Genes, an intellectually stimulating environment, and *optimal nutrition* are important factors that contribute to a child's physical growth and mental development.

Helping your child advance towards a world of learning and discovery today will help ensure a better and brighter future for him. That is why Wyeth Progress is there to help your toddler achieve optimum nutrition from 1 year onwards.

From ProGifted to Progress

Wyeth ProGifted 6 months to 1 year

Wyeth PROGRESS 1 year onwards

Children's nutritional needs vary as they grow. At each level of growth, these needs have to be met and sustained onto their next stage of development. It is essential that they get the right amount of the required nutrients suited to their age.

Wyeth recommends a system of nutrition to optimize your child's development. Help nourish your child's gifts with Wyeth's ProGifted milk supplement. Its right blend of nutrients are suited for children 6 months to 1 year.

After this, it is essential that you continue your child's growth with Progress. Progress contains DHA and AA precursors which help in brain development. It is a special energy-dense milk formula suited for the increasing energy needs of active toddlers. It also contains beta-carotene and zinc for improved resistance to infection.

With its ProGifted ingredients, Progress is sure to help your child advance and make headway, from 1 year onwards.

ACCELERATED!
from Nursery to Senior Kinder BIANCA PABILONA
Progress user for 4 years
Wyeth ProGifted 6 months to 1 year
Wyeth PROGRESS 1 year onwards
PROGRESS
1.8 kg
FASTER PROGRESS
Wyeth

From 1 year onwards

Bianca has always been good with numbers and solving puzzles. Her skills in Math and her ability to grasp abstract concepts are remarkable. It's no surprise she skipped Junior Kinder and went straight to Senior Kinder.

Progress knows that what children drink helps determine how well they think, how fast they develop. That is why Progress has Wyeth's ProGifted ingredients. It is specially formulated with DHA and AA precursors to help children advance and make headway.

Give your child a chance to advance. From 1 year onwards, give your child Progress.

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Lawmakers rushing abroad at first sign of trouble?

COMPILED BY LITO ZULUETA

WHAT is this we hear that congressmen and senators have suddenly swamped embassies of so-called First World countries with applications for immigrant status? It appears our lawmakers are the first to give up on us, pack their bags and bring their money to safer havens. They probably know exactly where we are heading, especially with the expected economic fallout from the spectacular terrorist attacks in the United States. One of the countries is a favorite of retirees and has in fact a cozy set of policies to

LAWMAKERS/ p.E2

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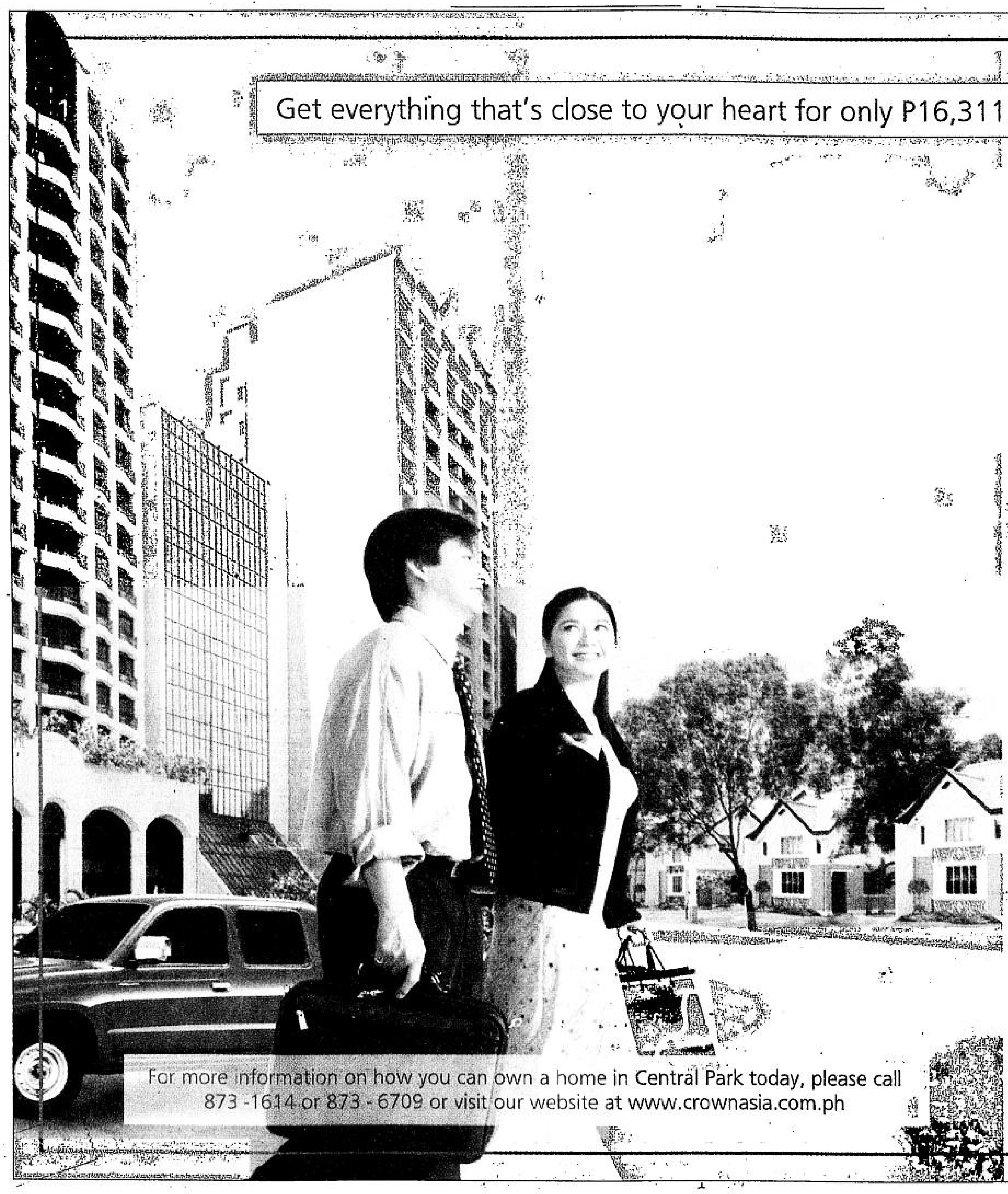

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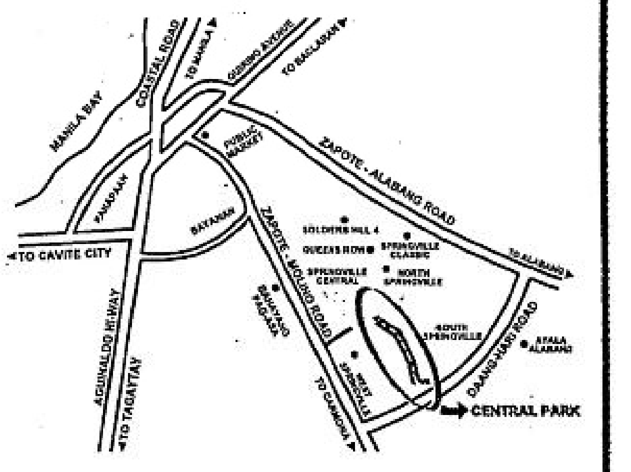
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- Shopwise Alabang can be found at the Left Wing of Festival Supermall in Filinvest, Alabang Zapote Road, Alabang, Muntinlupa City.
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JVC
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Lawmakers rushing abroad at first sign of trouble?

(From page E1)

attract investments from retirees.

Village of the damned

PERHAPS another fallout from the terrorist attacks and the collapsing world economy is the deteriorating peace and order. Even the otherwise well-secured homes of an exclusive village aren't anymore secure. Only this week, three houses in the enclave were broken into. In one incident, the robber attacked an old resident who was rushed to the hospital and survived the ordeal. More details next week.

'Friendly' neighborhood cops

LIFESTYLE staffer **Virginia Osorio** has had a run of bad luck lately. A couple of months ago, she lost her dear mother, leaving her alone in the world. Last week, thieves broke into her home, where she now lives by herself, and carted away everything she had of value.

The crime was promptly reported to police and was recounted in this paper. And that was the end of that.

The case hasn't moved, she complained. When she last followed up, the police report has disappeared. A policeman who is her neighbor advised her to fork over P5,000 to investigators if she wanted any action on her case, "for fingerprint analysis and such." Later, another policeman called her on the phone to try to sell a dog to her.

Today she lives in fear in her own home in Sampaloc, Manila, afraid the criminals might come back to get her. She has callused hands from putting up deadbolts and chains as her only protection from criminals.

ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

Her home is in the jurisdiction of Manila Police precinct 4, but for all the assistance she is getting it may as well be in Basilan. Paging PNP chief **Leandro Mendoza**!

More on NCCA 'bastusan'

Jimmy Laya 'glad'

I THOUGHT that the PDI article "Bastusan at the NCCA" referred to the roughness in the way Prof. **Virgilio S. Almario** was replaced as NCCA executive director. However, Secretary **Victoria P. Garchitorena**'s reply referred extensively to me. She might have been misinformed:

1. It was President **Fidel V. Ramos**, not President **Joseph E. Estrada**, who indorsed me for the NCCA chair in 1996. There was a vacancy when my predecessor, architect **Leandro V. Locsin**, passed away. The NCCA Board proposed two names, including mine, to President Ramos. The President thereupon wrote the Board expressing his desire for my election as chair.

2. An award should be given to the fictionist who convinced Secretary Garchitorena that, "...Mr. Laya actually had himself APPOINTED by President Estrada in 1998..." This is simply not true. On the contrary, soon after his election, I wrote President Estrada that "I would be happy to step down (as NCCA chair) to make way for the President's choice..." Some weeks later, I was given a photocopy of a presidential appointment. I immediately sent a reminder of the appropriate procedure and the appointment paper was not released.

3. On Jan. 22, 2001, a few days after President **Gloria Macapagal Arroyo** took office, I wrote her the identical letter that I had sent President Estada in 1998, including a description of the NCCA election process. For some reason, it was interpreted as a resignation letter. I took it up with the NCCA Board, which decided to have me continue in the meantime. I also met with then Executive Secretary **Renato de Villa** to explain that the NCCA Board elects the chair and that both Presidents Ramos and Estrada had written desire letters. He said that Secretary Garchitorena had been assigned to look after the culture sector and that I should wait for definite word. I subsequently met twice with Secretary Garchitorena during which I reiterated my willingness to relinquish the chairmanship and answered questions on the NCCA procedure.

4. It was the NCCA Board, not "some members of the Library Committee reportedly allied with Mr. Laya (that) declared (Ms **Leticia R. Shahani**'s) membership and election illegal." Without my participation, the Board declared on May 22, and again on June 7, that her entry into the Library Committee violated established procedure. The six major nationwide library associations have also expressed their objection to a "library user" heading the Committee which has always consisted of practicing professional librarians.

5. I have been told that it was neither my finance and management background nor my government service during the "Marcos regime" or previous to that, during the Macapagal and Garcia years, that was the primary factor in my election as NCCA chair. Rather, it was my long involvement in culture and the arts, including the restoration of Intramuros, the building of the Central Bank art collection, as well as my writings on culture and the arts, that qualified me to be in the NCCA.

6. Early in June, Secretary Garchitorena called to ask for the postponement of the election of chair. In the absence of a desire letter and without my presence, the NCCA Board decided to elect me chair on a holdover capacity. However, with Secretary Garchitorena's letter of Aug. 14 that the President wishes to have a "new leadership team," I submitted my resignation to the NCCA Board. I suggested Dec. 13, the fifth anniversary of my chairmanship as my departure date, but I would be happy to leave sooner, whenever the President makes her choice known.

To put things in the proper perspective, may I say that I am glad that even in the heat of the present discussion, the accomplishments of the NCCA during my time seem to be acknowledged by most.

JAIME C. LAYA.

Rio 'thanks' Vicky

I WRITE to certify that the head of the PMS, Secretary **Garchitorena**, indeed called me up and I did mention that I had wanted to return to UP last year, but that Dr. **Jaime C. Laya** requested me to stay at the NCCA. I assured Ms Garchitorena that I would return to UP once a new chair replaces Dr. Laya. At the same time, to be fair with UP, I also suggested that I should perhaps leave the NCCA at the end of October so that UP could properly assign me to classes for the second semester.

I also write to thank Ms Garchitorena's singular resolve to help me return to UP "without diminution of compensation." I would like to believe that she really wanted me "to start writing again" soonest when she persuaded chancellor **Emerlinda Roman** to recall me for duty at UP. When Ms Roman failed to indicate the urgency of my recall, Ms Garchitorena must have graciously asked for the cooperation of the NCCA board to free me from the NCCA.

That is why, like Ms Garchitorena, I must correct you for reporting that I was "unceremoniously booted out" as executive director of the NCCA. Like many others, you misread the extraordinary enthusiasm of Ms Garchitorena to help me return to UP. The truth is, I submitted my resignation letter effective Dec. 31, 2001 at the Sept. 6 meeting of the Board of Commissioners. The board accepted my resignation but was divided about its date of effectivity. There were 13 members present (minus Dr. Laya and I), six voted for Dec. 31 and six voted for "effective immediately."

I have not yet read the minutes of the meeting but those who fought for Dec. 31, I guess, were merely being legalistic. They did not want to violate my secondment and contract. On the other hand, those who wrote "immediately" understood and followed the request of Ms Garchitorena above and beyond the actual and written desire of the President of the Republic of the Philippines to appoint Ms **Maria Fina Yonzon** in my place. Fortunately, the presiding chair, Tourism Undersecretary **Evelyn Pantig**, decided in favor of the *inmediatista*. I am eternally grateful to them for helping me get my freedom to write again.

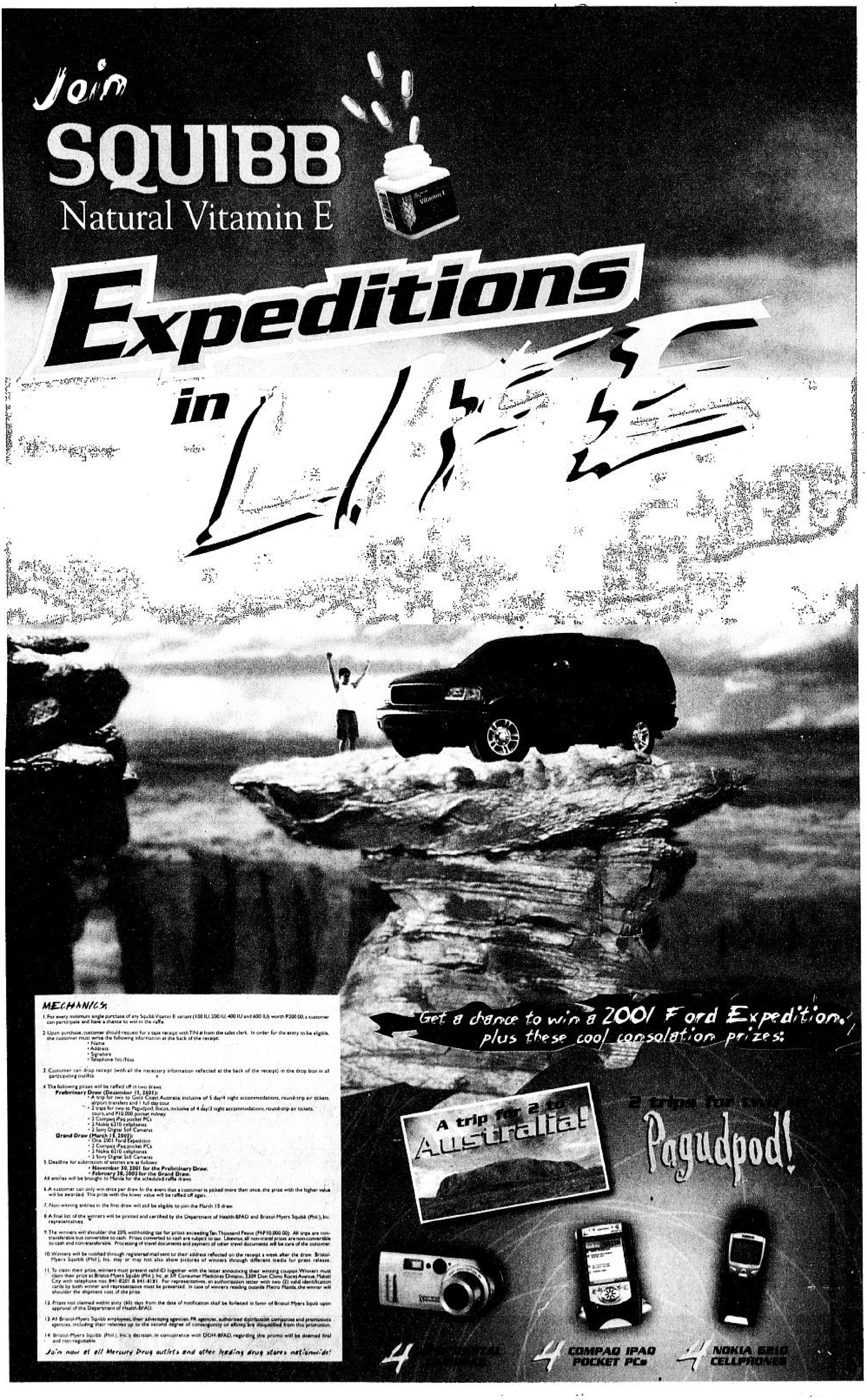
In fact, I think they were too eager to free me that they have not bothered to formally inform me about their decision until now. They were really overeager to just perfunctorily inquire about who my replacement is. (By the way, I did ask for Ms Yonzon's biodata from the office of Executive Secretary **Alberto Romulo** for proper presentation to the board, but did not receive any for the board meeting. On Sept. 10, I found a hand-carried envelope from Ms Garchitorena in my pigeonhole at UP, containing Ms Yonzon's biodata. Ms Garchitorena's transmittal letter was dated Sept. 3 and addressed to me as a faculty member of UP. *Para kaya maging* reference *ko sa pagtuturo*? I asked the NCCA board secretary to distribute copies of the biodata to all the commissioners.)

I want to inform you, too, that I reported for duty at UP on Sept. 7, although I had to stay at the NCCA until Sept. 14 while Ms Yonzon was completing her transfer from DTI. Of course, as chancellor Roman expressed in her letter, all my friends in UP are happy to receive me back but I have to think of my own research or writing project to keep me busy till the second semester. Which means I can use my time freely between now and the whole of October. Writing one or two love poems, perhaps?

Para akong pagong na itinapon sa ilog.

I can only be eternally grateful, as I said, to Ms Garchitorena, Ms Pantig and the secret six members of the NCCA board who fully understood the unnecessary sacrifice exacted by a managerial job from a writer like me. My next literary prize—*kung hindi pa ako laos*—is dedicated to their unsolicited patronage.

(Sgd.) VIRGILIO S. ALMARIO.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   - 2 Compaq iPaq pocket PCs
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   - 2 Sony Digital Still Cameras
   Grand Draw (March 15, 2002):
   - One 2001 Ford Expedition
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   - 2 Nokia 6210 cellphones
   - 2 Sony Digital Still Cameras
5. Deadline for submission of entries are as follows:
   - **November 30, 2001 for the Preliminary Draw.**
   - **February 28, 2002 for the Grand Draw.**
   All entries will be brought to Manila for the scheduled raffle draws.
6. A customer can only win once per draw. In the event that a customer is picked more than once, the prize with the higher value will be awarded. The prize with the lower value will be raffled off again.
7. Non-winning entries in the first draw will still be eligible to join the March 15 draw.
8. A final list of the winners will be printed and certified by the Department of Health-BFAD and Bristol-Myers Squibb (Phil.), Inc. representatives.
9. The winners will shoulder the 20% withholding tax for prizes exceeding Ten Thousand Pesos (PhP10,000.00). All trips are non-transferable but convertible to cash. Prizes converted to cash are subject to tax. Likewise, all non-travel prizes are non-convertible to cash and non-transferable. Processing of travel documents and payment of other travel documents will be care of the customer.
10. Winners will be notified through registered mail sent to their address reflected on the receipt a week after the draw. Bristol-Myers Squibb (Phil.), Inc. may or may not also show pictures of winners through different media for press release.
11. To claim their prize, winners must present valid ID together with the letter announcing their winning coupon. Winners must claim their prize at Bristol-Myers Squibb (Phil.), Inc. at 3/F Consumer Medicines Division, 2309 Don Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City with telephone nos. 841-8201 & 841-8181. For representatives, an authorization letter with two (2) valid identification cards by both winner and representative must be presented. In case of winners residing outside Metro Manila, the winner will shoulder the shipment cost of the prize.
12. Prizes not claimed within sixty (60) days from the date of notification shall be forfeited in favor of Bristol-Myers Squibb upon approval of the Department of Health-BFAD.
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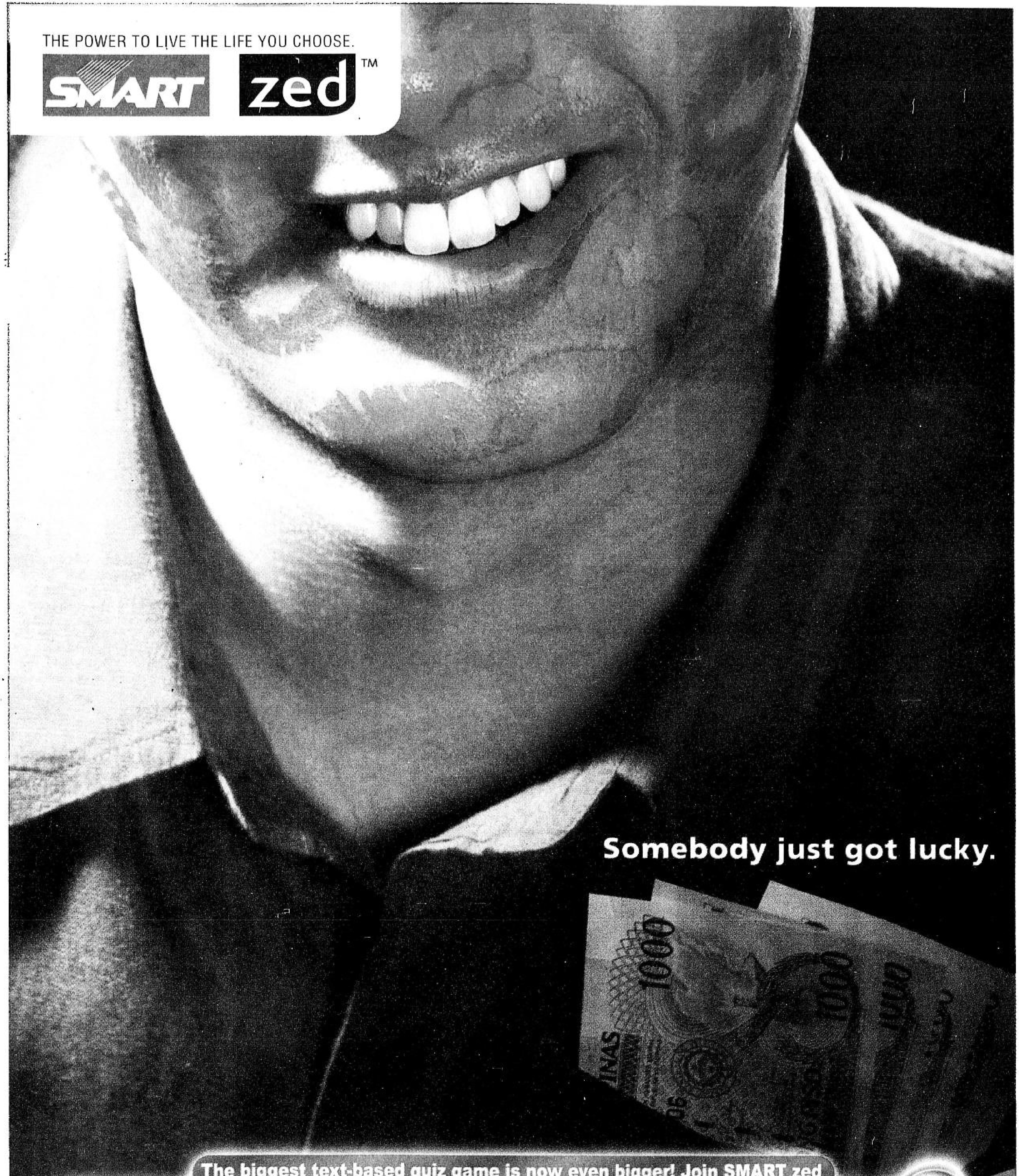
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Week 3 winner of ₱50,000.00	Belinda Acasio of Imus, Cavite

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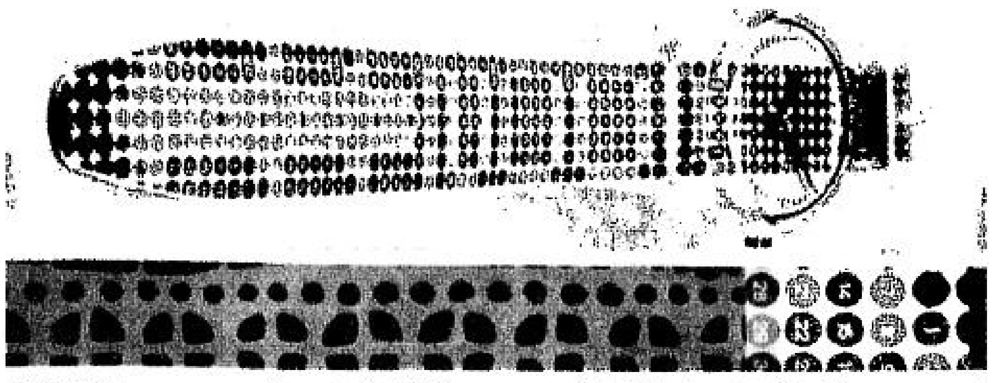
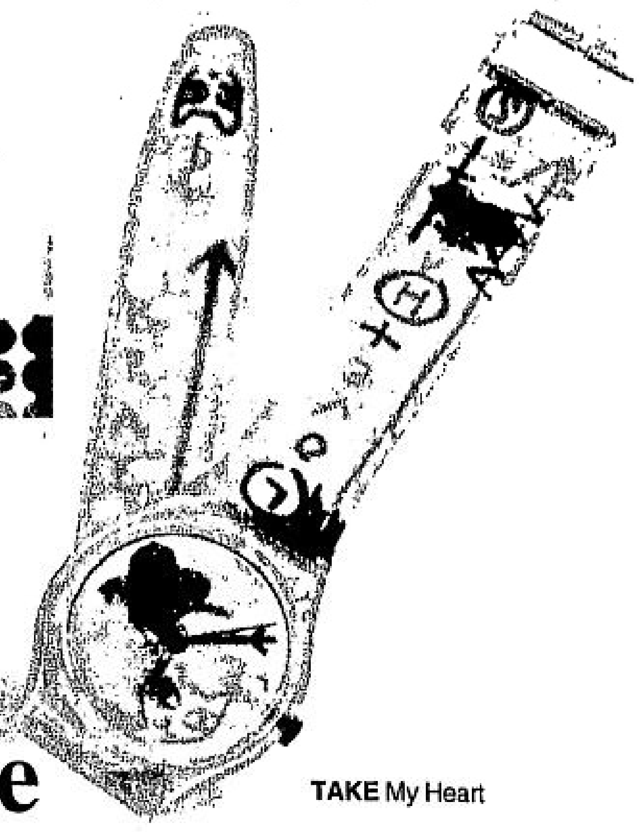
SWATCH Ineluctable



DATE Line

Unusual accents and interesting touches in fashion watch's new line



TAKE My Heart

SWATCH Fall/Winter 2001 is an incredible collection that suits every personality. Brilliant colors, sensual textures, surprising fabrics and unique designs characterize it. The mix results in unusual accents in design and interesting touches to the dial and face.

Date Line has two hues of blue strategically set against a white plastic band to cover and spell out Swatch 2002. The white buckle and case, red hour hands and thin silver seconds hand add definition, as do the accents atop the crystal.

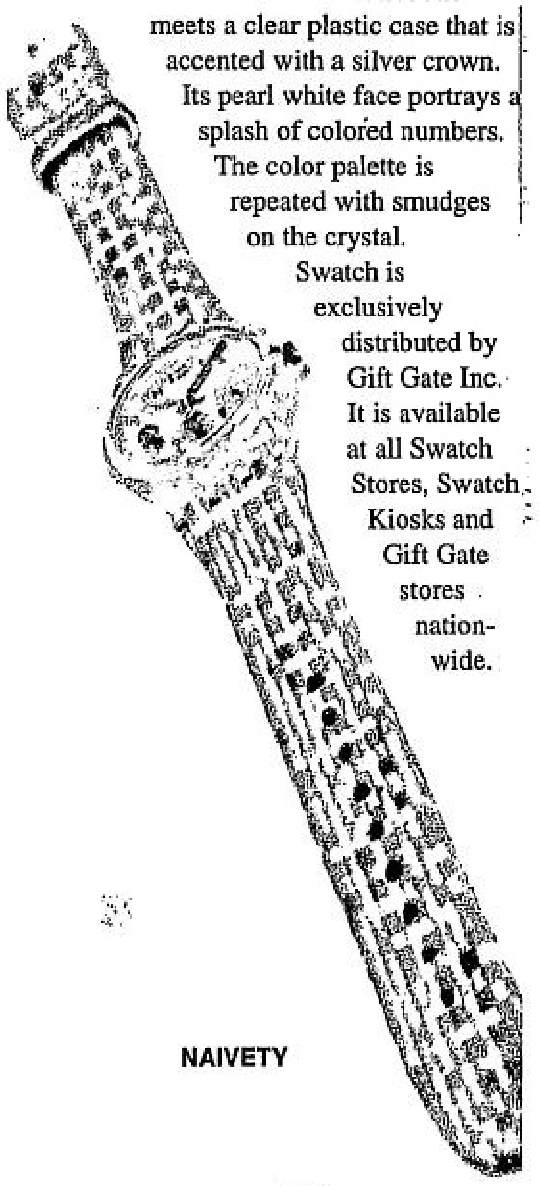
Ineluctable has an embroidered fabric strap with wine-red, yellow, green, orange and blue Persian motif leading to a clear green plastic case. The tiger head design on the face with "roar" marks indicates the hours. Decorative hour hands of a sword and cross add to the circus atmosphere. The second hand has a gold crown.

Take My Heart has a frosted plastic band inscribed with colorful script and designs. Red heart and lips and a kitten symbolize the happy love message. The face is clear-frosted decorated with a kitten head and a red heart with a blue arrow. Silver-toned hour hands in the shape of a heart and arrow and a silver seconds hand mark the time.

Mundo has a sky-blue plastic band decorated with colorful city skyscrapers and noted landmarks. It has a sky blue face with white numbered dial, white hour hands and red seconds hand.

In Naivety, a bright pastel multi-checked fabric band in a feminine thin silhouette meets a clear plastic case that is accented with a silver crown. Its pearl white face portrays a splash of colored numbers. The color palette is repeated with smudges on the crystal.

Swatch is exclusively distributed by Gift Gate Inc. It is available at all Swatch Stores, Swatch Kiosks and Gift Gate stores nationwide.



NAIVETY

MUNDO

Ringing tone
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Options
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TONE BUBBLES - The name says it all. You'll feel like you're in a fishbowl with this one.
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TONE BOUNCE - Get a kick out of this tone that sounds like a bouncing ball.
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Sunday LIFESTYLE

Weddings, Engagements

NEWLYWEDS Randy and Trina Villanueva

'Harana' seals this union

RANDY Villanueva of Malabon, a gregarious doctor, and Trina Amoranto of Laguna, a pretty and smart systems analyst, first met in a trendy Makati bar where young and sophisticated career men and women congregate.

Although both are modern, young professionals, the initial attraction became a long courtship as both Villanuevas and Amorantos are traditional and conservative families. The young Villanueva proposed to the apple of his eye at her home in Laguna via the traditional *harana*, accompanied by doctor friends in barong tagalog.

The young woman's parents, Manuel and Erlinda Amoranto, were charmed by her beau's endearing ways. They agreed to meet his parents, Eliseo and Lourdes Villanueva of EGV Fishing Company of Malabon, to finalize the wedding

HARANA/ p.F2

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WITH THEIR *NINANGS* led by Dr. Tessie Villanueva and Dr. Olga Vinoya

WITH THEIR *NINONGS* led by Rep. Oscar Rodriguez and Rep. Ricky Sandoval

THE COUPLE with their parents Manuel and Erlinda Amoranto and Eliseo and Lourdes Villanueva

THE BRIDE with her entourage

'Harana' seals this union

(From page F1)

arrangements.

On the early evening of March 25, the long courtship finally ended at the altar of the Shrine of Jesus Church in Pasay City. The bride wore an elegant Edgar Allan creation as she exchanged vows with the young doctor.

A sumptuous dinner reception followed at the ballroom of the Westin Philippine Plaza, with the Villanueva and Amoranto clans joining the celebration.

Celebration of love

THE PHILIPPINE Academy of Fashion Designers (PAFD) will hold its project for the year dubbed "I Do...," a bridal fair and exhibit to be held on Sept. 29-30 at the Manila Midtown Hotel.

This unique exhibition is a comprehensive collaboration of designers, manufacturers and entrepreneurs who offer products and specialized services to future "married couples."

The PAFD designers are Conrad Graves (chair), Leonard Co (president and project chair), Juhn Rosendo (vice president), Noe Reyes (secretary), Chito Sanchez (PRO), Jose Nepomuceno (treasurer), Boying Eustaquio, David Anorma, Ramon Depositario, Fhel Hangod, Geri Loyola, Voie Soriano May and Irene Lopez (members).

There will be a grand bridal fashion show featuring wedding gowns and formal wear of all the participating designers and bridal labels as well as the country's top couturiers and established fashion houses. The Manila Midtown Hotel will serve as the backdrop for the show.

A product presentation, lectures on floral arrangements and hair and makeup demonstrations will also be held.

"I Do..." is a joint celebration of love and matrimony by the PAFD and the Manila Midtown Hotel's 25th year in the hotel industry.

Call PAFD at 722-0876, 721-5611, fax 722-6739.

Bazaar aids underprivileged children

THE CHOSEN Children Village Foundation and the Abot Pangarap Foundation will hold The Merry Merchants Bazaar on Sept. 30 at the Hotel Inter-Continental. The event aims to raise funds for underprivileged children.

The Chosen Children has been providing care for physically and mentally handicapped and abandoned children in a family-type environment since 1989. It started the Chosen Children Village in Silang, Cavite in 1994, which takes care of children, many of whom will never be adopted. At present, there are eight cottages, a school, a chapel, a physiotherapy center, an administration building and staff house, which were built and are maintained solely through donations, sponsorships and grants. Its board of trustees serves without compensation.

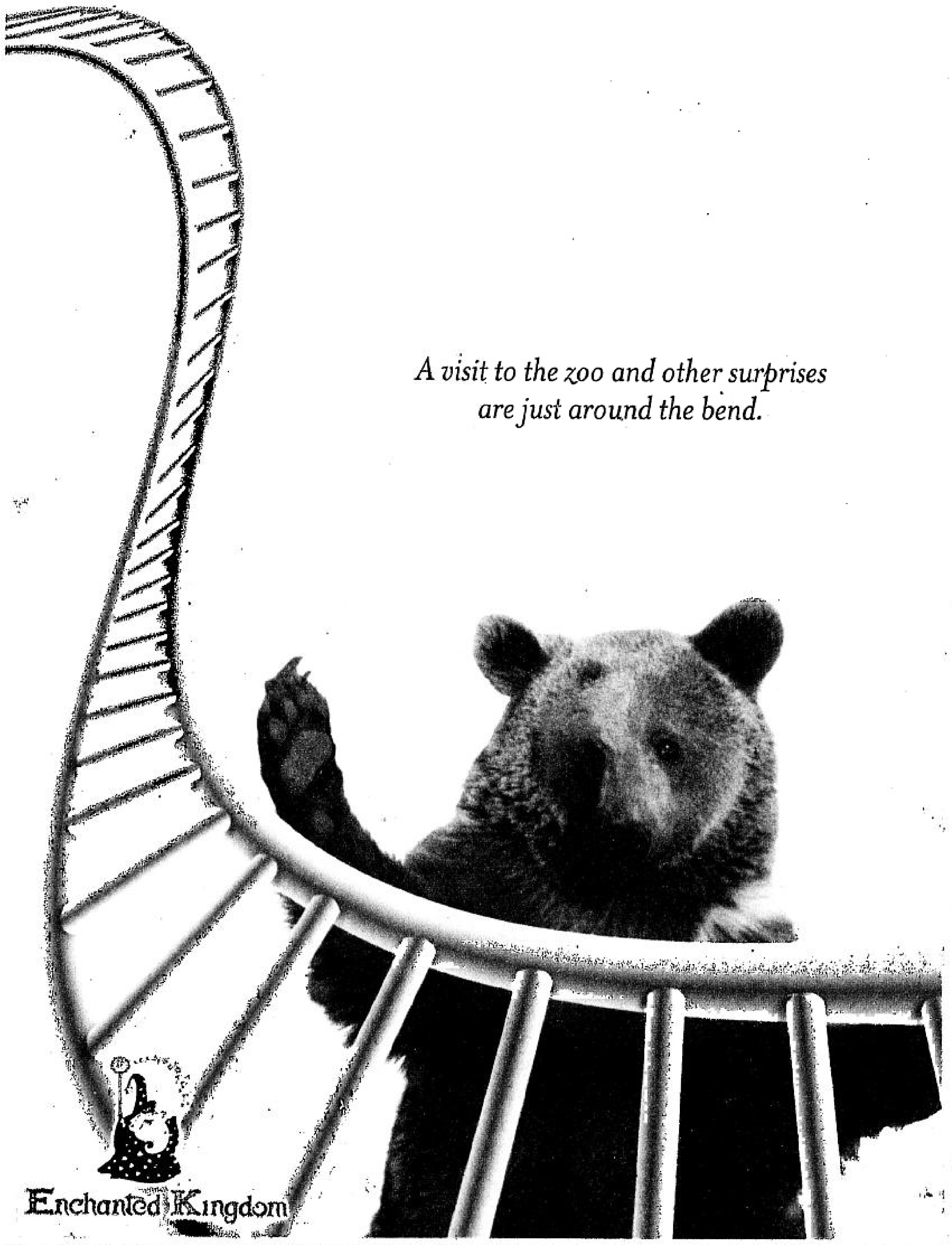
The Abot Pangarap Foundation Inc. has been providing financial assistance for the education of underprivileged children of St. Martin School in Baguio, where the curriculum integrates the cultural values and practices of the Cordillera. The foundation is raising funds for the construction of new classrooms.

The Merry Merchants Bazaar will be open 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Tickets are available at the gate, or call Cecile at 832-1546 or 831-3627.

Big sale at 2 chic boutiques

THE "BIG Catch Sale" is ongoing at all Fish boutique outlets until Oct. 15. Customers can avail of as much as 70-percent discount on a wide variety of ladies' apparel and accessories. Basic bottoms are sold for as low as P249 while trendy tops are going for as low as P99. For the early Christmas gift shopper, there's also a wide range of gift items like pastel alarm clocks and photo frames selling at 50-percent discount. Visit boutique outlets at Glorietta 2, Robinsons Place Ermita, Robinsons Galleria, SM City Manila and SM Southmall.

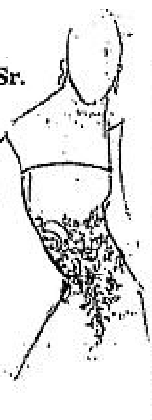
Mix, a chic boutique that brings together the hottest foreign labels of women's apparel under one roof, is having a big sale until Oct. 15. Customers can avail of as much as 80-percent discount on name brands like Vivienne Tam, Poleci, Trina Turk, Cynthia Rowley, BCBG, Plenty, Tracy Reese, Anne Klein shoes. Mix is located at Greenbelt Mall, Ayala Center.


A visit to the zoo and other surprises
are just around the bend.
Enchanted Kingdom

Tired of the jungle we call the city? Come to Enchanted Kingdom for a bunch of surprises that will bring out the fun-loving animal in you. A free pass to the Malabon Zoo is just for starters. Check this newspaper for more, starting next week.

Makati Sales Office · Amusement Leisure Corporation G/F, Tropical Palms Condominium, De la Rosa Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City · Park Address: Enchanted Kingdom, San Lorenzo South, Sta. Rosa, Laguna · Tel. No.: 830-2111 to 17, 843-6673 to 78
Tickets also available at all Ticketworld outlets: National Bookstore Branches, Tower Records (Makati, Alabang), Robinson's Dept. Stores (Galleria, Manila), Ticketworld Head Office.

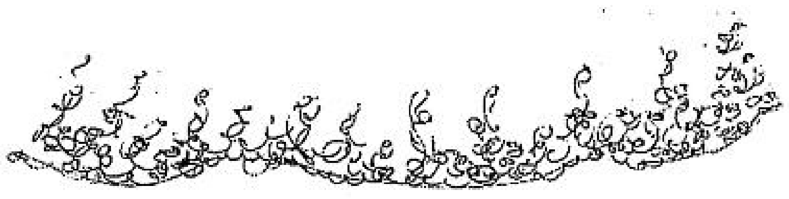
Milestones

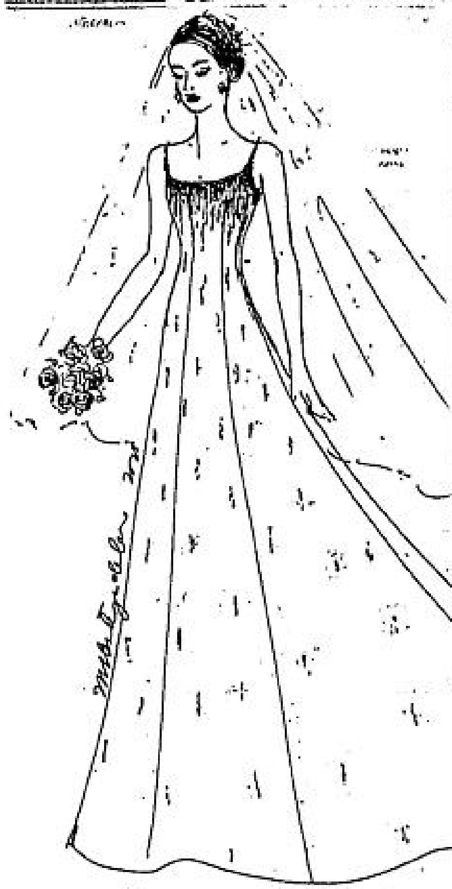


TOGONON-AREJOLA

Jun Togonon, son of **Basilio Sr.** and **Josefa Togonon** will marry **Aileen Arejola**, daughter of **Cesar** (deceased) and **Ana Arejola**, on Oct. 10, at the Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral, Calbayog City, Samar. Reception will follow at the bride's residence.

The bride will wear a **Jed Sevilla** creation, a princess-cut gown encrusted with pearls and jet beads, and a cathedral train intricately beaded with seed pearls. A long delicate veil will hold the tiara.





CARDEÑO-BALDERRAMA

Laurie O. Balderrama, daughter of **Francisco** and **Jesusita Balderrama**, will wed **Arvin B. Cardeño**, son of **Gaudioso** and **Amparo Cardeño**, on Sept. 30 at the Christ the King Parish Church.

The bride and groom will wear **Mila Santiago de Leon** creations. The bride will wear a white duchess satin gown with clustered beading of Swarovski crystals and glass beads. The groom will wear a hand-embroidered barong in *sinuksok piña*. The entourage will wear burgundy gowns with silver beads from Galatea.

Reception will follow at the Amorsolo Grand Ballroom at Manila Galleria Suites.

USON-VELASCO

Ferdinand I. Uson and **Catherine C. Velasco** will exchange marriage vows at the Manila Cathedral on Sept. 29, to be officiated by Rev. Fr. **Roy M. Rosales**. The bride is the daughter of **Alfredo** and **Isabelita Velasco** of Sto. Tomas, Batangas, while the groom is the son of **Manuel** and **Alicia Uson** of Las Piñas City. Reception will follow at the Champagne Room of the Manila Hotel. The bride will wear a gown created by **Jon Espeleta**.

COSICO-LOTERTE

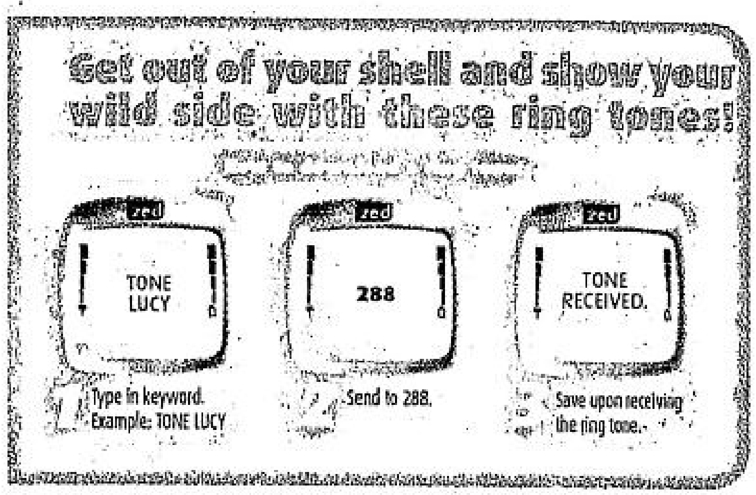
Bong Lampa Cosico, son of **Honorio Sr.** and **Teresita L. Cosico**, will wed **Miriam Regorgo Loterte**, daughter of **Ernesto** (deceased) and **Minda R. Loterte**, on Sept. 29 at the Mary Immaculate Parish Church, Moonwalk Village, Las Piñas City. Reception will follow at the Aspen Towers, Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang, Muntinlupa.

LUMABI-BARRAMEDA

Dr. **Dennis M. Lumabi**, son of lawyer **Rosalino** and **Erlinda Lumabi**, will wed Dr. **Maritess T. Barrameda**, daughter of engineers **Francisco** and **Wilma Barrameda**, on Oct. 6 at the Manila Cathedral. Reception will follow at the Holiday Inn Manila.

HIPOLITO-MAGLAYA

Dr. **Cecilio Hipolito Jr.** son of Mr. and Ms **Cecilio Hipolito Sr.**, will exchange vows with **Yvette Maglaya**, daughter of Lt. Col. and Ms **Manuel Maglaya**, on Sept. 30 at the Manila Cathedral. Reception will follow at the Rigodon Ballroom of The Peninsula Manila.



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Pagdating Ng Panahon	Aiza Seguerra	TONE PAGDATING
Mr. Kupido	Rachel Alejandro	TONE MRKUPIDO
Thank You	Dido	TONE THANKYOU
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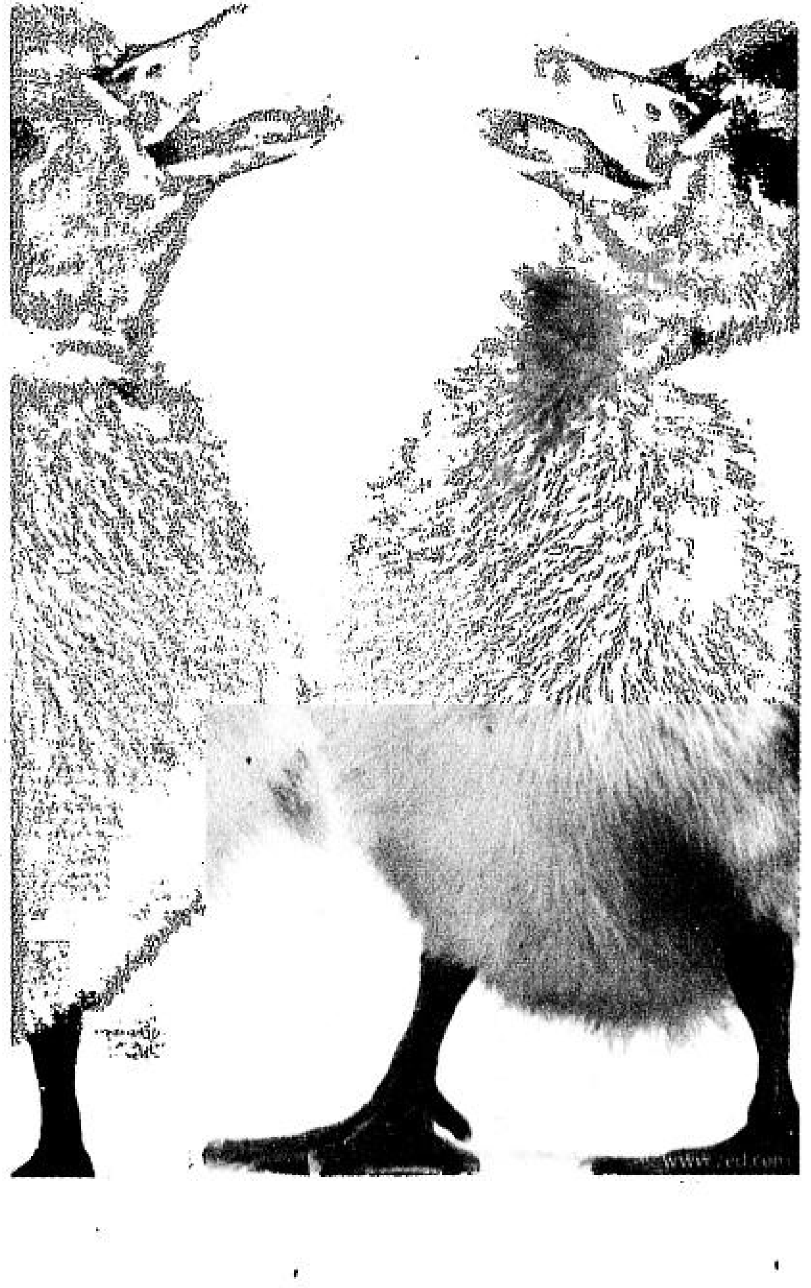

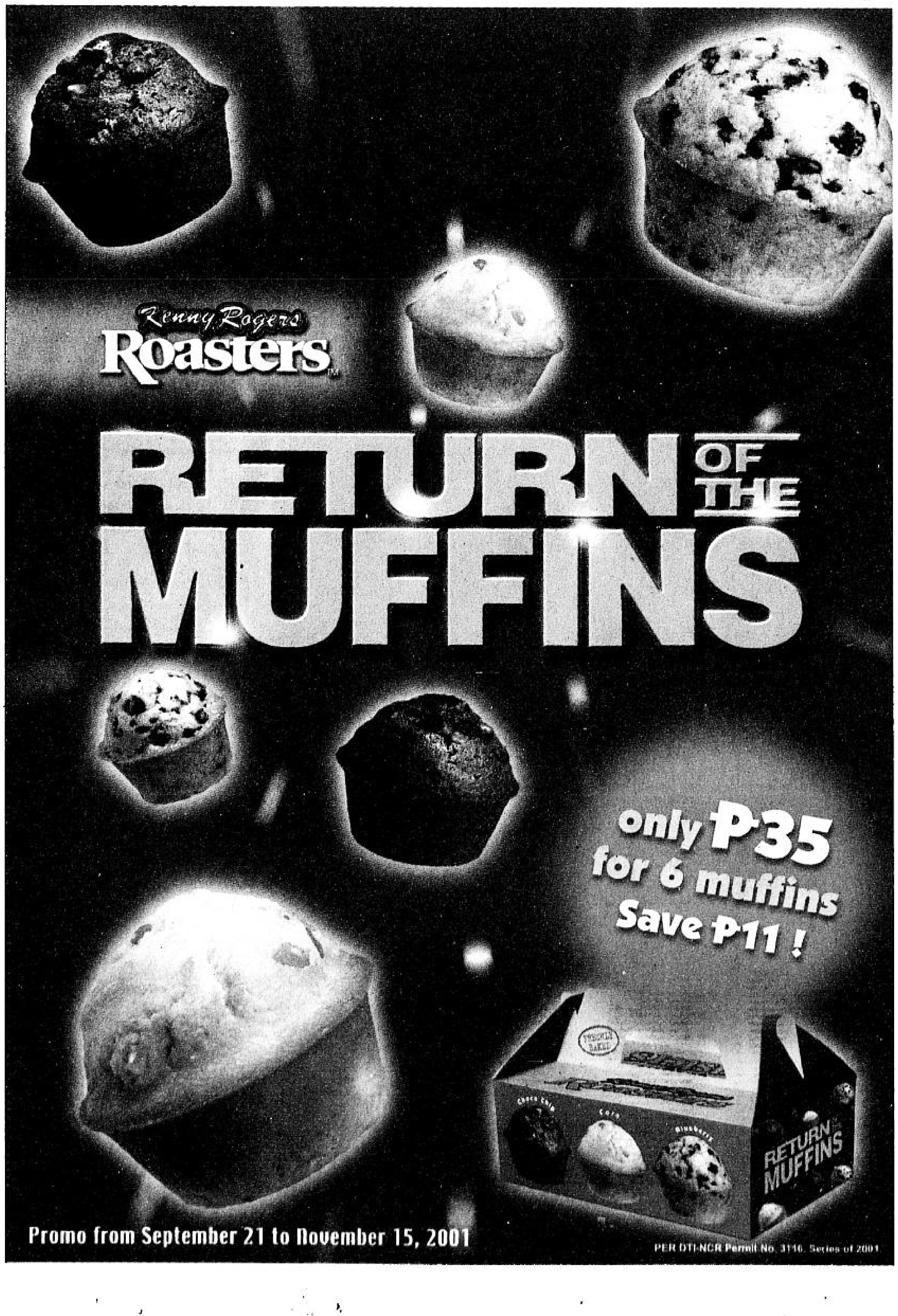

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His fear of rejection prevents him from expressing his love for a friend

LOVE NOTES

Joe D' Mango

DEAR Joe,

I am Matthew, 22 years old, single and a graduate of a one-year computer course. I live a very simple life. I usually stay at home and take care of my 3-year-old brother because until now I am not lucky enough to have a job.

On July 28, 1993 my life took a big turn when my best friend Jake invited me to join their fellowship meeting held every Wednesday at a nearby congregation. I am a Catholic, who goes to Mass every Sunday with my family. I make novenas, especially when I have special intentions. The fellowship meeting helped me view things in an optimistic way. I became a regular member so every Wednesday I pray and worship with my "brothers and sisters." God has not answered some of my prayers but I know He will in time.

On Aug. 18, 1993, I met Kate. She's 21 years old and a new member of our fellowship. She is very attractive, intelligent and has a great sense of humor. We became friends. We always talk about love, past affairs, how we got hurt and what we have learned from our heartaches. We were so comfortable with each other and soon, I felt my heart skip a beat every time we're together.

My friend Jake knows I love her but he also knows that I am afraid of being turned down because I don't have any job and I cannot offer her anything but my love. She just might not be interested in someone like me. All my friends tell me to give it a try but I don't have the courage to tell her what I really feel.

Kate has a lot of suitors but she has not answered any of them yet. I'm afraid that one day she might fall in love and I will be left waiting and crying. I don't want to see that day because I cannot afford to lose her. I'm helplessly in love but I always find myself speechless whenever I get the chance to tell her those three little words that I have kept in my heart for so long. What should I do?

MATTHEW

I'm glad that you wrote because most men would rather keep their feelings inside than let them out in the open and be vulnerable. I know how you feel. I have felt that way many times before and I still get tongue-tied and afraid at times. This is the very same fear that will keep us away from the things that we treasure and the people we love. Most women prefer men who are honest and sincere. They don't rely on their feelings that can often be misleading. They do listen to our actions but they don't want to get into guesswork. They love to hear our thoughts and see them transform into small gestures that prove our claim. If you keep your feelings for Kate to yourself then you will never have the chance to know how she really feels for you. There are a hundred different ways to show you care. You can start by picking out wild flowers that you'll see on your way to the church and carefully arranging them where it will catch Kate's attention. Slip a note that says how you feel about her. And don't ever make the mistake of signing it with someone else's name or initials. Write your name and make sure she knows it came from you. Be creative and adventurous. Saying "I love you" need not be expensive or extravagant. Words that come straight from the heart are far more valuable than any gift money could by. It's now or never. It's better to get hurt because we have been true to our feelings than to be hurt because we never had the courage to express them.

Listen to the full-length version of this story on Joe D' Mango's "Lovenotes" on Wave 89.1.

E-mail the author at his new address: dearjoe@lovenotes.fm or visit www.lovenotes.fm

SANTOS-CORDIÑERA

Regina "Reggz" C. Cordiñera, daughter of **Carlito** and **Ester C. Cordiñera**, will wed **Marco Antonio Angelo "Mark" S. Santos**, son of **Edmundo** and **Myrna S. Santos**, on Oct. 2, at the Shrine of Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life, Pasay City.

The entourage will wear gowns designed by the groom's sisters **Nickey** and **Nhina Santos**. Materials and embroideries are supplied by Mely's Creations. Reception will follow at the Pope John Paul II Youth Center.

Let's Celebr8!

It's a month-long festivity this September at The Manila Galleria Suites! Join us as we celebrate our 8th year anniversary with 50% off on room rates, and 25% off on buffet during weekends. Enjoy a concert at the Raphael by The Manila Philharmonic Orchestra with a special P800++ buffet! And as a token of appreciation to our top corporate accounts, we're throwing a party with Next Level on September 14 and a movie premiere on September 27 at Robinsons Galleria Movie World. Don't miss this festive celebration as we at The Manila Galleria Suites express our heartfelt gratitude to you!

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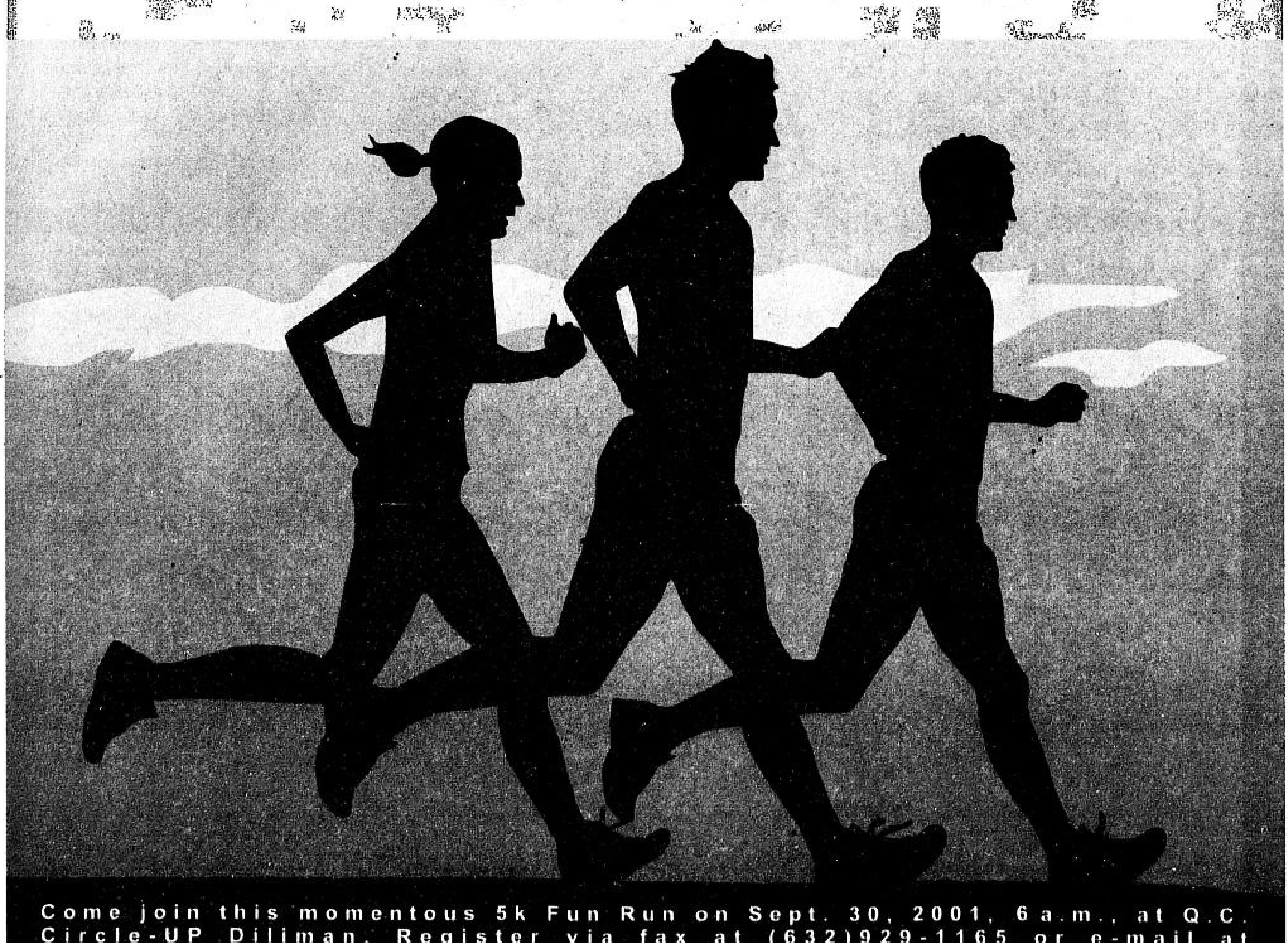
The World Heart Day
Fun Run is on.



Come join this momentous 5k Fun Run on Sept. 30, 2001, 6 a.m., at Q.C. Circle-UP Diliman. Register via fax at (632)929-1165 or e-mail at hhouse@mydestiny.net on or before Sept. 26. For inquiries, call Josie at (632)929-1161 or 66. This event is limited only to the first 2,000 runners. So join now and run in celebration of the World Heart Day.

TOP TIPS FOR A HEALTHY HEART

Things to do:

- Exercise. Even a little is better than none.
- A better diet could improve your health.
- Watch your weight.
- Try to stop smoking (we know it's tough).
- Try to avoid stress.

Things to check out with your doctor:

- Have your blood pressure checked.
- Check for diabetes.
- Monitor your cholesterol levels.
- Have an overall check-up.

But the most important thing is:

- Have a heart for life. Look after your heart and tell your family and friends to do the same.

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    - Experience in office management is a plus.
- **Languages:**
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- Preferably with 2 to 3 yrs. work experience in the field of Sales & Marketing in a Supervisory Capacity

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- Male or female between 27 - 35 yrs. old. Graduate of Psychology
- Preferably 3-5 years work experience in the same field
- Well versed in all facets of HR functions such as Recruitment, Compensation & Benefits, Employee Relations and Training

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- Must be a Registered Nurse
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- ☐ Flexibility and creativity

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- ☐ With initiative, creativity, good in community organizing and networking

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- ☑ With excellent oral and written communication skills
- ☑ Preferably with minimum of 2 years Direct Sales experience or equivalent sales/training experience in supervisory capacity
- ☑ Willing to travel; immediate hiring for Cavite/Laguna/Malolos/Muntinlupa

Interested applicants may send in their resumé, 2x2 picture and transcript of records to **Second Floor, Roscar Building, #81 EDSA, Mandaluyong City (near MRT Boni Station).**

We are highly progressive group of companies with market leadership in Asset Management, On-line Financial Services, Real Estate Investments, and International Commerce.

With a total of seven offices in the Philippines, we invite applicants to join our branch in "Binondo" as:

INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO MANAGERS

Applicants should be:

- ✓ Male/female
- ✓ 22-35 years old
- ✓ Previous work experience in the field of business, finance or marketing an advantage
- ✓ Self-motivated with dynamic personality
- ✓ Excellent communication skills
- ✓ Aggressive and analytical
- ✓ Possess leadership qualities
- ✓ Can work with minimum supervision
- ✓ Chinese speaking, a preference

We offer: **Monthly remuneration**
Commission in U$ dollars

Apply at: 6/F Sun Life of Canada Building
Dasmariñas Street corner Quintin Paredes Streets
Binondo, Manila

Schedule of Interview:
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM Monday to Thursday
1:00 PM to 4:00 PM September 24-27, 2001

Note: Please come in business attire and bring your resumé with 2x2 ID picture. **Previous applicants need not apply.**

A publicly listed company based in Hong Kong is looking for a few smart people to further promote its image in the Philippines. We are seeking applicants to fill up positions as:

CONSULTANTS

Qualifications:

- ☑ College graduate with good moral character
- ☑ Male or female, 20 to 35 years old
- ☑ Knowledgeable in foreign exchange, stocks, treasury or commodity trading an advantage
- ☑ Ability to speak Chinese or other foreign languages likewise an advantage

Kindly forward your application letter, resumé and recent 2x2 photo to:

The Marketing Manager
Unit 907-B West Tower, Philippine Stock Exchange Building
Exchange Road, Ortigas Centre, Pasig City 1600 or
EMAIL: 911@edsamail.com.ph

We will reply to qualified applicants only.

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

We seek for a qualified person with the qualifications below, and who has a sense of mission to the Church.

THE POSITION: **PUBLICATION OFFICER**

Qualifications:

- Male/Female, not more than 35 years old
- Preferably single
- Graduate of A.B. Journalism
- With at least one (1) year experience in the preparation and editing of publications
- Computer literate (MS Word), preferably with Pagemaker background

If YOU are the PERSON we are looking for, please submit your resumé with passport-sized photo as follows:

ATTN. HRD
c/o **Philippine Daily Inquirer**
Box No. KA-009-01 RC
G/F Trinity Bldg.,
636 T. M. Kalaw St.,
Ermita, Manila
(Email: aord@mailstation.net)

An internationally based organization has an opening for:

MARKET RESEARCH ANALYST

The person we are looking for should possess the following qualifications:

1. Male or Female
2. With 2 to 3 years experience in market research (eg. FGDs, product testings)
3. Good academic standing and work attitude
4. Positive disposition and pleasant personality
5. Computer literate (Excel, Powerpoint, Access)
6. At least 25 years old
7. Preferred are graduates from UP, Ateneo and De La Salle

Qualified applicants may send on or before ***October 5, 2001*** *their application letter and comprehensive resumé with 1 x 1 photo to:*

Box Code: TK300
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
Classified Ads
5/F, Bldg. B, SM Megamall
EDSA, Mandaluyong City
Email: jm1@inquirer.com.ph
(Subject: TAK)

Visit us at our website

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
JOBMarket
ONLINE

www.jobmarketonline.com

ANNOUNCEMENT

The **National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women (NCRFW)**, a national government agency under the **Office of the President**, is inviting applicants for **Planning Officer V**. The person we are looking for shall head the division in charge of program development and delivery of technical assistance to priority agencies and regions to achieve the agency goal of gender equality.

Status of Appointment : Permanent

Salary per month : Basic - P20,823.00
PERA - 1,000.00
RATA - 5,350.00

Qualification Requirement:

With M.A. degree in any social or behavioral science related courses preferably Public Administration, Social Work, Community Organizing, Women in Development, Psychology or Management; At least four (4) years in position involving management and supervision and three (3) years in development work particularly program development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation or advocacy; At least 24 hours of training related to program development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and 24 hours on management and supervision; Knowledge of and experience in the business of government including its systems, structures and processes; Familiarity with women/gender and other development issues; Excellent writing and oral communication skills; Career service professional or any eligibility applicable for second level position.

Qualified applicants should send letter of application with updated bio-data not later than September 30, 2001 at:

The Personnel Office
National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women
1145 J.P. Laurel Street, San Miguel, Manila

JOB OPENING

JUNIOR & SENIOR MFC DEVELOPER

Job Description:

We are seeking experienced software developers to be responsible for coding various components of software, integrating code from other team members, and providing input on current and future technologies of check clearing and document imaging in the banking industry.

Experience desired:

Programming Visual C++/MFC-based applications in a Windows environment; developing check clearing/document imaging applications; familiarity developing software with several of the following technologies: Win32 API, Active X, COM, TCP/IP, Winsock, InstallShield, LEADTOOLS Imaging, and Multithreading.

Send your resumé with photo and contact number to:

PERSONNEL MANAGER
P.O. BOX 318 Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila
E-mail: jm1@inquirer.com.ph
(Subject: POM-MEGA)

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*A leading **Healthcare** company is in need of career-oriented individuals to fill-up the following positions:*

O.R. Nurse

Licensed nurse and a graduate of a reputable college/university
Aged 22 to 35 years old
With at least 2 years experience as O.R. Nurse in a hospital

Staff Nurse

Graduate of a reputable college/university
With valid PRC license
Aged 22 to 35 years old
With at least 1 year training experience in a hospital or clinic
Flexible and team player

Corporate Accounts Officer

Pleasing, confident and aggressive personality
With strong communication skills
At least 2 years experience in Sales and Marketing preferably from a Healthcare or Health Insurance company
Aged 22 to 30 years old

Human Resources Officer

Preferably with degree in Psychology, Behavioral Science or related fields.
Hardworking with above par interpersonal and communication skills.
At least 2 years experience in Recruitment, Human Resources Mgt. & Dev., Design & Administration of Compensation & Benefits

Interested applicants may send your resumé to:

BOX MK-73
c/o Classified Ads Department
Philippine Daily Inquirer
G/F Atrium Makati, Makati Ave.,
Makati City

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we-amuse.com, Inc. is in **URGENT** need of a **TECHNICAL SYSTEM COORDINATOR:**

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Graduate of Computer Engineering or other related courses
- Must be flexible, and can handle multi-tasking.
- Must be a quick learner and he/she will be expected to learn Linux Fundamentals
- The candidate must be organized and must have the management skills.
- He/she must know OS SAVVY.

Our company offers attractive benefits and compensation. Salary is negotiable depending on applicant's work experience.

Applicants may e-mail their resumé at noajmata@yahoo.com or fax it at telefax #834-89-19

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

5 Accounting Clerks

Qualifications

- Accounting graduate
- 21-28 years old, single, hardworking
- Computer literate

Please apply in person between 9:00 AM -- 5:00 PM Monday-Friday, bring your resumé with recent 2x2 photo and transcript of records if available to:

Signature Brands Corporation
#256 Doña Soledad Extension Avenue
Better Living Subdivision
Parañaque City

Telephone Nos.: 824-0924; 776-8211;
776-0278

Fax No.: 824-0976; 776-8212

KEPCO PHILIPPINES CORPORATION
Which operates and manages the 650MW
Malaya Thermal Power Plant in Rizal is now
Accepting applicants for:

TAX SPECIALIST

- ☐ Bachelor's Degree in Accountancy
- ☐ With at least two (2) years work experience in the field of taxation
- ☐ CPA License an advantage
- ☐ Not more than 28 years old, preferably female

Interested applicants may send their complete resumé, letter of application, transcript of records, college diploma, CPA License, certificate of employment and recent 2"x2" photo to:

MR. YOUNG PARK
Personnel Manager
KEPHILCO, Malaya Thermal Plant
Bo. Malaya, Pililla, Rizal

Or at the address below:

KEPHILCO, Manila Office
Suite 2501-A, 25/F, Tektite Tower I,
Exchange Road, Ortigas Centre, Pasig City

Deadline for submission: **01 October 2001**

McCormick Phils., Inc.

A prestigious food manufacturing company with well-established position in the international market for its consumer products and institutional specialties

Is in need of

TEST KITCHEN SPECIALIST

- male or female, at least 25 years old
- graduate of food related courses like Nutrition, Home Economics, Food Technology
- with at least four years experience in a food company handling its Test Kitchen Operations
- must be proficient in Recipe Research and Development
- must have excellent communication skills

TRADE MARKETING ASSISTANT

- male or female, at least 24 years old
- graduate of Marketing or Business Course
- with at least 2 years experience in a consumer packaged goods company handling sales services or marketing services function
- must have good oral and written communication skills
- preferably knows how to drive

Interested applicants may send their comprehensive resumé with recent photo to:

Corporate Human Resources
#145 Panay Ave., Quezon City, Metro Manila 1103
E-mail address: hr@sysuinc.com.ph

This ad needs a big idea.

It could be yours.

Brillant Senior Copywriter
3 or more years of agency experience
Preferably female

Account Manager
3 or more years of agency experience
Excellent leadership skills

Fax your resume to
The Advertising Agency
636 7063

COMMISSION ON APPOINTMENTS
Pasay City

ANNOUNCEMENT OF VACANCIES

Pursuant to Mandate of R.A. 7041

ONE (1) LEGISLATIVE STAFF OFFICER V (SR. MINUTE OFFICER/ STENOGRAPHER) Item No. 44-2/SG21-1 Qualification Standards: CS Professional; Bachelor's degree relevant to the job; 3 years of relevant experience; Sixteen (16) hours of relevant training; proficient in Microsoft computer operations.

ONE (1) LEGISLATIVE STAFF OFFICER IV (JR. COMPUTER PROGRAMMER) Item No. 51/SG20-1 Qualification Standards: CS Professional; Bachelor's degree relevant to the job; Three (3) years relevant experience; Sixteen (16) hours relevant training in Computer Programming (MS Visual Fox Pro).

ONE (1) LEGISLATIVE STAFF OFFICER II (MANAGEMENT ANALYST 1) Item No. 28/SG16-1 Qualification Standards: CS Professional; Bachelor's degree relevant to the job; Experience and training in planning and research.

ONE (1) LEGISLATIVE STAFF ASSISTANT II (DRIVER) Item No. 14/ SG10-1 Qualification Standards: With Driver's License; Elementary graduate with driving experience for at least one year, honest and trustworthy.

Submit comprehensive resumé with 2x2 picture, proof of eligibility and transcript of records to HRMS/Commission on Appointments/ 6/F PNB Financial Center, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City. Deadline for application is on October 5, 2001.

REGIONAL GRANTS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

This newly created post presents a unique opportunity to be at the forefront of developing and building on the continued success of Christian Children's Fund (CCF) child-focused development programs in the Asia region.

Responsible for working with CCF National Offices to identify, develop and maintain funding relationships, you will research and raise the necessary funding through major donors to support CCF's work. You will also support the development of partnerships with other NGOs, government and private contractors to promote joint funding approaches where appropriate.

You will have at least three years' experience in successfully securing significant funding from a broad range of sources including bilateral and multilateral donors, or a similar level of experience of awarding funds having worked for at least one such major donor.

With your comprehensive understanding of funders, funding opportunities and application procedures coupled with excellent proposal and report writing skills, you will have the ability to package project submissions with clarity and credibility. Outstanding oral and written English language skills, relevant tertiary qualifications and high level interpersonal/representation skills are also key criteria for the role.

The position is based in Manila with significant periods of time travelling in the region and internationally. An attractive remuneration package will be negotiated according to qualifications and experience.

More details about the position can be viewed at the CCF website:

www.christianchildrensfund.org.

Application letters addressing the criteria outlined here and in the position description together with detailed Curriculum Vitaé should be emailed to Jane Edge, Regional Representative, Asia – send to both **jedge@bigpond.com** and **jedge@ccfusa.org** - by **October 3.**

Candidates selected for interview will be contacted within 3 weeks of the closing date.

SAMIE INTERNATIONAL RECRUITMENT & GENERAL SERVICES

2127 Saint Gothard Bldg. A, Mabini Street, Malate, Manila
License No. 549-LB-120400-R
Tel. 536-3394 / 536-5278
Accreditation No. 59166-3

A big and well known company in Saudi Arabia is in need of the following positions:

FURNITURE DESIGNER

5 years experience & with knowledge in AutoCadd or manual

FURNITURE UPHOLSTERER

3 years experience in sofa making in a furniture factory

FURNITURE PAINTER

3 years experience in furniture painting in a furniture factory

FURNITURE CARPENTER

3 years experience in machine carpentry

SPONGE CUTTER

3 years experience in sponge cutter in a furniture factory

TRUCK DRIVER

5 years experience as truck driver

ACCOUNTANT

Graduate, at least 3 years above experience, with knowledge in furniture factory & computer literate

INDUSTRIAL MACHINE MAINTENANCE

No less than 5 years experience in any carpentry maintenance

COMPUTER OPERATOR

Candidates should have a minimum 3 years experience. A college graduate in the same field.

COMPUTER TECHNICIAN

Candidates should have a minimum 3 years experience. And with knowledge in and work as computer technician

QUALITY CONTROL

3 years above experience in furniture factory as upholsterer, furniture painter

PIPE RUBBER LINER TECHNICIAN

No less than 3 years experience in piping rubber covering. Prepares ex-abroad

WELDER

5 years experience. All around welder specially in orbit

Requirement: Resumé papers with job description, certificate of employment with 2x2 ID picture. Interested applicants outside Metro Manila can send their resumé to Samie Int'l.

For Manpower Pooling Only / No Fees to be Collected
Beware of Illegal Recruiters / This Ads is Approved by P.O.E.A.

Our outsourcing service bureau is in need of the following:

NETWORK SECURITY ADMINISTRATOR

To provide technology application and administrative support to the company's IT infrastructure including the following primary duties:

- Network Security Administration
- Local and global systems implementation
- Hardware acquisition, installation and maintenance
- End-User training and support

The Administrator will be responsible for supporting Microsoft NT, Windows 95, MS Back Office, Lotus Notes Mail Server, FTP server, and future IT implementations.

Qualifications:

- University graduate preferably in Computer Engineering or Computer Science.
- Minimum one-year experience in a position with similar responsibilities.
- Excellent knowledge of the IT industry, hardware, software, communications technologies, Internet, and latest emerging technologies.
- Knowledgeable in UNIX an added advantage.
- Excellent communications and interpersonal skills.
- Excellent planning and analytical skills.

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Main Responsibilities:

- Initiate and implement company sales objective in accordance to set standards and plans
- Build and achieve individual sales goals through high-level performance
- Maintain long-term professional relationships with customers through regular customer-care activities

Qualifications:

- 4-Year College Graduate preferably, business or marketing course from a reputable University
- Male or female, 21-28 years of age
- With or without sales experience
- Self-motivated, driven and dynamic
- Aggressive and confident
- Highly trainable and can work with minimal supervision
- Possesses leadership qualities
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Customer and Quality Service Oriented
- Goal Oriented with the ability to surpass performance goals set
- Car owner is an advantage

PRODUCTION CLERK

Qualifications:

- Male
- Between 20-30 years old
- Accounting graduate
- At least two years experience
- Good verbal and written skills
- Good interpersonal relationship skills
- Highly computer literate, especially with MS-Windows applications (Excel, Word, Powerpoint, etc.)
- Proficient in production report preparation

Interested applicant may apply in person together with their resume, 2X2 picture and transcript of records at:

Human Resources Department
7781 Saint Paul Street, San Antonio Village, Makati City
Telephone Nos. 899-2422, 899-2440 to 41

NERA

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

NERA is a premier solutions provider of microwave radio transmission, satellite communications and IT networking infrastructure and high value added electronics contract manufacturing. It started to address the local market early in 1995 and was awarded major contracts in the telecommunications networks of the country's major carriers.

Currently, we are looking for additional team player for our new Business Unit—**Information Technology.**

TECHNICAL SUPPORT SUPERVISOR

1. Graduate of Computer Engineering or any IT related course;
2. With at least 3 years supervisory experience in handling technical services for companies such as telco enterprises and/or internet service providers;
3. With certification in IT field preferred such as CCIE;
4. Must be knowledgeable on the following functions:
   - Switch/router configurations LAN/WAN installations and maintenance;
   - Frame Relay/ATM/Gigabit Ethernet and ISDN Networking;
   - Data security/encryption and Virtual Private Networking (VPN);
5. Must have a strong customer service orientation;
6. Excellent command in verbal and written communications.

SALES ENGINEER

1. Graduate of Computer Engineering or ECE;
2. With at least 3 years sales experience in handling accounts for telcos or internet service providers;
3. Excellent command in verbal and written communications.

Please send your resumé at:

NERA Philippines, Inc.
8th Floor, Multinational Bancorporation Centre
6805 Ayala Avenue, Makati City
Tel. No. 845-2971 loc 207 • Fax No. 845-3511/12
E-mail: tes@neraphil.com.ph

JTI

JT International (Philippines), Inc. - a subsidiary of the world's third largest international cigarette company - has the following immediate vacancy for:

Trade Marketing Supervisor

The jobholder will be responsible for implementing and supervising the Company's trade marketing and distribution programs. The ideal candidate should be:

- Between 20-30 years old
- College graduate
- Knowledgeable and has at least two years working experience in fast moving consumer products
- In possession of a driver's license and familiar with GMA routes
- Proficient in English and has excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Computer literate
- Willing to travel, work long and irregular hours
- Enthusiastic, dedicated and a good team player

JTI offers competitive and excellent remuneration to the right candidate with great prospects for advancement.

Interested applicants may submit their resumé, transcript of records and recent 2x2 photo not later than ***October 5, 2001.***

The Sales Director
JT International (Philippines), Inc.
14th Flr., Units 1401/02 Galleria Corporate Center
EDSA cor. Ortigas Avenue, Quezon City

NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
National Planning and Policy Staff

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Two (2) Chief Economic Development Specialist
Salary P20,823/month + P6,350 month/allowances

Master's degree in Economics; at least 5 years of working experience, three years of which must be in a supervisory capacity; 24 hours of training in supervision and management; Career Service Eligible (Professional)

Two (2) Supervising Economic Development Specialists
Salary P19,251.00 + P1,000 allowance/month

Bachelor's degree in Economics, preferably with M.A. Economics or MA units; 3 years of relevant working experience; 16 hours of relevant training; Career Service Eligible (Professional); **Should be currently employed in other government agencies**

Five (5) Senior Economic Development Specialist
Salary P16,792 + P1,000 allowance/month

Bachelor's degree in Economics, preferably with M.A. Economics or MA units; 2 years of working experience; 8 hours of relevant training; Career Service Eligible (Professional); **Should be currently employed in other government agencies**

Two (2) Economic Development Specialists II
Salary P14,098.00 + P1,000 allowance/month

Bachelor's degree in Economics or other related fields; 1 year of working experience; 4 hours of relevant training; Career Service Eligible (Professional); **Should be currently employed in other government agencies**

Three (3) Economic Development Specialists I
Salary P11,837.00 + P1,000 allowance/month

Bachelor's degree in Economics or other related fields; Career Service Eligible (Professional); **Should be currently employed in other government agencies**

Please submit your application letter with comprehensive resumé to:

The Director
National Planning and Policy Staff - NEDA
#12 Blessed Jose Maria Escriva Drive, Ortigas Complex, Pasig City
Tel. No. 631-3283; 631-3712 Fax No: 631-3721;
e-mail: SDCororaton@neda.gov.ph; RLStaMonica@neda.gov.ph

EDPITAF

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IMPLEMENTING TASK FORCE

BULLETIN OF VACANT POSITIONS

(In compliance with RA 7041)

(1) Driver 1 - SG-3; Permanent; Item No. OSEC-DECSB-DRV1-28-1998; At least Elementary school graduate (presently employed in the government); experience and training not required; Eligibility: Driver's license.

(1) Mechanic III - SG-9; Contractual; High school graduate or completion of relevant vocational/trade course; one (1) year of relevant experience; four (4) hours of relevant training.

Qualified applicants must send their resumé, transcript of records, recent ID picture and other credentials to:

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT OFFICE
DepEd - EDPITAF
Dorm-D, DepEd Complex
Meralco Avenue, Pasig City

Deadline for submission of application is on October 5, 2001.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Integrated Family Planning Maternal Health Program

Financial Management Analyst (1)
Salary: P22,000/mo.

(1) . Minimum Qualifications

- BS in Accountancy
- Certified Public Accountant
- With at least 2 years experience in government accounting
- 1 year experience in the preparation of the following financial reports specifically for trust fund account
  Trial Balance
  Balance Sheet
  Bank reconciliation
- 25-31 years old, preferably single
- Willing to travel within the Philippines
- Proficient in the use of Excel and MS Word

Submit the following:

- Curriculum vitaé with at least 2 references
- Transcript of records
- Application letter addressed to:
  Ms. Ma. Cecilia G. Pangilinan
  Head, IFPMHP-Project Management Office
  Department of Health
  Sta. Cruz, Manila
- Send application letter, CV and transcript of records to IFPMHP@hotmail.com or fax to 743-1761 on or before **September 27, 2001.**

MEDICard PHILIPPINES INC.

One of the country's leading HMO and the first HMO to be awarded ISO 9002 is looking for assertive, dynamic and energetic individuals to fill up the following vacancies:

NURSES

☑ Male or female, at least 5'7" for males and 5'3" for females. Must be a registered nurse;
☑ With at least 6 months to 1 year experience in a hospital or HMO setting;
☑ Must have a pleasing personality and above-average communication skills.

MARKETING ASSISTANT

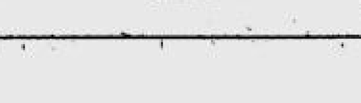
☑ Male, at least 5'6" in height, single;
☑ Graduate of BS Marketing or any Medical course;
☑ With above-average written and oral communication skills;
☑ Must be computer literate.

Qualified and interested applicants are requested to apply personally. Bring resumé, transcript of records and 2x2 photo at:

Rx MEDICard

MEDICard Philippines, Inc.
Human Resources Department
8/F Sagittarius Building
H.V. Dela Costa Street
Salcedo Village, Makati City
or E-mail us at rsalmon@medicardphils.com
(Previous applicants need not apply)

Your career might only be a click of the mouse away.



JOBMarket ONLINE
www.jobmarketonline.com

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

1) Sales Executives

- Must be 21-30 years old male or female; single; graduate of a 4-year course; preferably with experience in sales; fluent in oral & written communication; computer literate; highly motivated & results-oriented; willing to be assigned in any part of the Philippines.

2) Bookkeeper

- Must be 21-27 years old; single; female; graduate of B.S. Accountancy; knowledgeable in Windows (EXCEL & WORD); preferably with at least 3 years work experience & has a pleasing personality.

3) Secretary

- Must be 21-27 years old; single; female; preferably a graduate of a 4-year course, knowledgeable in WINDOWS 2000; preferably with at least two (2) years work experience; fluent in oral & written communication & has a pleasing personality.

4) Technician / Installer

- Must be 23-35 years old; male; a graduate of basic plumbing course or other related vocational courses; preferably a Master Plumber; have at least 5 years experience in Construction; willing to be assigned anywhere in the Philippines and preferably with driving skills.

5) Messenger/Janitor

- Must be 19-25 years old; single; male; at least HS graduate; resident of Manila for at least 10 years; with good moral character and preferably with driving skills.

Interested applicant may submit their resumé with recent 2x2 ID picture, photocopy of transcript of records, certificate of previous employment, & NBI clearance to:

EDWARD MARCS PHILS., INC.
2nd Floor Timog Bldg.
28 Eugenio Lopez St. (formerly Scout Albano St.)
South Triangle, Quezon City
Tel. 922-1371 or 922-1658
Look for: Vangie Javier

Universal Worker
From anywhere to anywhere!

UWI is a service-oriented company with the aim of providing quality service to its varied clients all over the world.
We are in need of dynamic & aggressive people to complement our growing family

wanted immediately
Placement Assistant

Preferred candidates are those who are:

- ✓ Psychology or Marketing graduate with recruitment know-how
- ✓ Marketing & service-oriented
- ✓ Team-player, aggressive & pleasant
- ✓ Willing to learn & be trained
- ✓ Computer literate
- ✓ Willing to travel & accept field assignments
- ✓ 21-25 years old, preferably female & single

Interested applicants may send their resumes either:

By e-mail : uwi@info.com.ph
Facsimile : 952-0552
Call : 932-7858

Or send applications to :
UNIVERSAL WORKER, INC. (PHILS.)
19 Holy Spirit Drive, Unit 2-C New Domain Plaza

Only qualified candidates may be entertained for interview. Previous applicants need not apply.

Make a carrer choice Online. Visit us at

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER JOBMarket ONLINE

www.jobmarketonline.com

GLORIA MARIS
dimsum kitchen

Timog and Sta. Lucia East Grand Mall

Is in need of the following positions:

experienced cook
kitchen helper
dining crew
experienced waiter
cashiers
receptionist
(at least 5'4" in height, 18-24 years old)

With pleasing personality and willing to work part time.

Interested parties should bring their resumé and employment certificate
for interview on September 24-26, 2001
from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at
4th Floor, Royal Dessert Holdings, Inc.
Rm. 403, Francisco Gold Condominium
784 EDSA, Quezon City
924-48-40

URGENTLY NEEDED!!!

BUSINESS WRITERS

For fast growing Philippine business and news magazine

Requirements:

- Preferably with 3 years writing experience in newspaper or magazine of general circulation
- Working knowledge of politics, business finance, economics
- Willing to work long hours
- Salary commensurate with skills and experience

Interested parties may send their resumé, picture and samples of work to:

P.O. BOX 2797 MCPO 1267
MAKATI CITY

WILL DECENA and ASSOCIATES ENGINEERS BUILDERS

Is in need of

CIVIL ENGINEER

Male
Licensed Civil Engineer
Must have 5 years solid experience
In the construction of all types of vertical structure
Knowledgeable in all Civil, Structural, Architectural and Cost Estimate.
Computer literate, self-starter and hardworking

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Female
24 to 30 years of age
Graduate of any 4-year business course
Must at least have a minimum of 3 years work related experience
Computer literate, results-oriented

CIVIL WORKS FOREMAN PLUMBER, MECHANIC

Bring your comprehensive resumé and apply at (NBI, 2x2 picture, SSS ID or E1 Form)

THE AMD / HRD MANAGER
#84-9 St. 11th Ave., GracePark, Caloocan City
Tel: 7413743 / 7408636 loc. 24 / 364-6178

DO IT NOW !!!

WHY WAIT FOR 2002. If you can be **EMPLOYED NOW...** We have opened new offices right at your own area, and soon to open nationwide.

STARTING INCOME OF - P12,000 plus Travel Incentives, Bonuses, Incentives and Car Plan to the most qualified candidate.

OPEN TO ALL UNEMPLOYED and **FRESH GRADUATES** from Exclusive and Non-exclusive Schools of any 4-year Course, preferably with computer literacy, but not a requirement.

At least 20 years old, with good moral character, pleasing personality, honest, smart and hardworking.

Can start immediately. Upon applying, please hand-carry your resumé with 2x2 picture and come in proper business attire in any of the following offices:

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE MANILA
50 Senatorial Drive,
Congressional Village,
Project 8, Quezon City

IMUS BRANCH
Suite 204 Purificacion
Bldg., along I-H-3,
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Defining a career

Other common career categories Jaymie can choose from at the outset are:

SOCIAL WELFARE / TEACHING
Includes social workers, councilors, teachers, priests and other religious volunteers. The government, non-government organizations (NGOs) and schools are the chief employers in this category.

PRODUCTION / MANUFACTURING
Includes industrial, mechanical and /or electrical engineers, production staff and construction specialists. Manufacturing companies include those that make consumer products and those that specialize in producing industrial machinery for other businesses.

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Values and urbanities in the workplace series

Cost consciousness in the workplace

By Ernesto G. Espinosa

(The author is currently the vice president of the Personnel Management Association of the Philippines (PMAP). He is also the assitant vice president, HRD and general affairs of Fujitsu Computer Products Corp. of the Philippines.)

DURING the last six months, many companies have been affected by the downturn of the US economy. On one hand, this situation had taught many employees to be more cost-conscious. On the other hand, cost consciousness should be a fundamental characteristic of every employee who treats the company as if it were his own.

Economize

How can an employee contribute to profitability? How can an employee economize? There are so many ways:

1. The common way is to turn off the lights and the air conditioner inside a room when they are not in use.
2. Recycle used envelopes, folders and paper especially when they will be used for internal purposes only.
3. Request ink for refill only when procuring white board markers.
4. Fix the air conditioner thermostat at a certain level, 25 or 26 degrees Celsius.
5. Substitute bond paper with newsprint; copy paper with book paper.
6. Use ball pens instead of sign pens.
7. Plan trips when making customer calls or when scheduling shuttle bus trips.
8. Avoid making long distance calls; use the company's e-mail system.
9. Use jumbo roll-type tissue paper instead of the regular ones so that they will remain intact inside comfort rooms.
10. Avoid using unnecessary office supplies such as highlighters, sign pens, glue pens, correction pens, etc.

Sense of ownership

In some companies, before an employee can request for a ball pen, he must surrender the empty ball pen to the Administration Department in order to show proof that he really consumed the item. This is a natural control mechanism for companies which are highly cost conscious.

Come to think of it, however, there is no need for this kind of control mechanism if employees treat the business as if it were their own.

Sense of ownership means that an employee should only request enough supplies for his regular consumption. Let's face it: come requisition time, employees always request for more than they can handle. Try to inspect employees' drawers and cabinets and one will find that they have extra ball pens, issue paper, diskettes, to name a few.

Sense of ownership means that an employee will not get the tissue paper from its dispenser because there are other employees who will still use them in the same manner that our visitors in our own homes will use them.

Sense of ownership means that while the company reimburses cost of transportation, a sales person will ensure that he plans his daily itinerary to avoid visiting places which are miles apart.

Sense of ownership means that an employee will keep the envelopes of the letters he received so that they can use them again to place documents for internal routing instead of using envelopes with the company letterhead/logo.

Sense of ownership means that an employee will not steal office supplies from the company and bring them home for consumption by his children.

Lifestyle

Quality of life is not seen through an employee's material possessions. In Calabarzon area, for instance, there are small-time lending companies which take advantage of employees who wish to borrow money quickly. The modus operandi is, the lending institution lends, for example, P 10,000.00 but immediately deducts the interest of P 2,000.00 from the principal amount leaving the employee with only P 8,000.00. Then the employee surrenders his ATM card in order to allow the lending company to withdraw the amortized amount every month.

The employee is able to get back his ATM card only after he has fully paid the loaned amount. The amount being loaned normally goes to the purchase of cellular phones, jewelry and other luxury items. Many employees live beyond their means just to "keep up with the Santoses." In the long run, they end up having deficits in their take home pay. If they find themselves in this situation, they become unproductive because they find other ways to borrow money from friends, relatives and even co-employees, sometimes even absenting themselves just to be able to raise enough funds.

Overtime

One of the aspects of operations which is oftentimes abused is the rendering of overtime. In many companies, the approval prior to overtime scheme is either not being followed or simply taken for granted. Employees are given the leeway to determine when they will render overtime.

The result is, some employees render overtime indiscriminately in order to avoid traffic, play computer games because they do not have anything to do, talk for hours over the telephone, chat with other employees or stay in the canteen or the pantry for a prolonged period.

When one tries to really assess the company's productivity, sufficient conclusion can be drawn that there are so many time-wasting activities happening within the company and it is an organizational nightmare for those tasked to maintain high productivity.

Quality without overspending

"Quality without overspending" is our Company's slogan for the month of August. Companies can do away with excesses while still maintaining quality in every aspect of their operations.

In the end, a cost-conscious employee contributes to profitability and productivity especially if this employee has embodied a sense of ownership which is a key to organization growth and success.

Reactions may be sent to *ernie@fcpp.fujitsu.co.jp*

SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE

GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE

September 23, 2001
Volume [illegible] No. 29

Nur Misuari

Out in the Cold?

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The Cover Image Controversial Moro leader Nur Misuari struggles to find his role in a new Mindanao. *Photograph from the Inquirer archives*

Honda Bay, Towards Dos Palmas

Far from the clutches of city
We are crossing this green sea
Towards Dos Palmas,
In the resort island of Arrecife.
"Best weather for sailing
And windsurfing," our guide says,
"Just on the brink of summer."
It is not the season of smooth water.
The salty wind roars in my ears,
Whitecaps slap furiously against
The hull of the boat, and the spray
Stings my face like a thousand needles.
But this swift passing on outrigger
Glancing adroitly among the swells
Of this deep vast well
Under the sky's luminous cavern,
Cleanses my mind of its murky reveries.
I gaze at the sea with absolute clarity:
Sluggish trails of kelp and rubbish
Part and drift past us,
Cabins-on-stilts dot the horizon
And against our moving they skitter like spiders
On their flimsy spits of island,
Haughty, precarious in their isolation.
I stand in motionless reprieve
At the center of this borderless noon,
Smug in the conceit
That no cavil or catastrophe
Can take this away from me, until
The boat slows down
And land claims us once more:
As the resort wharf looms ahead,
The Muslim gongs clang their welcome
And ends my brief bedazzlement
At this shameful opulence of tranquility.

Marne L. Kilates

Kay Omeng, Kapatid

(sa kagustuhan nating magka-anak subalit malayo sa hinagap)

Hinahanap kita
gabing angkinin ako
ng mga bituin
sa Baguio.

Hawak ko naman ang mapa
ng iyong paglalayag
ngunit ni bakas ng iyong mga yapak
ay tila ligaw sa uri ng ating paglalakbay;
hindi ko masapo ang iyong amoy
sa hanging pinagpaubayaan mo ng
kalayaang magmahal nang kaiba;
nasaan ba ang iyong anino sa nagsasangang
siwang ng ladlad na pag-ibig?

Alam kong batid mo ang mga nagaganap sa gabing tulad niyon:
Natural na madadaig ang hamak na nilalang
wala akong pananggalang ipagkait ang sinumang tuturan
sa bulong mong lihim at malaon ko namang

Pangarap.

Marian A. Caampued

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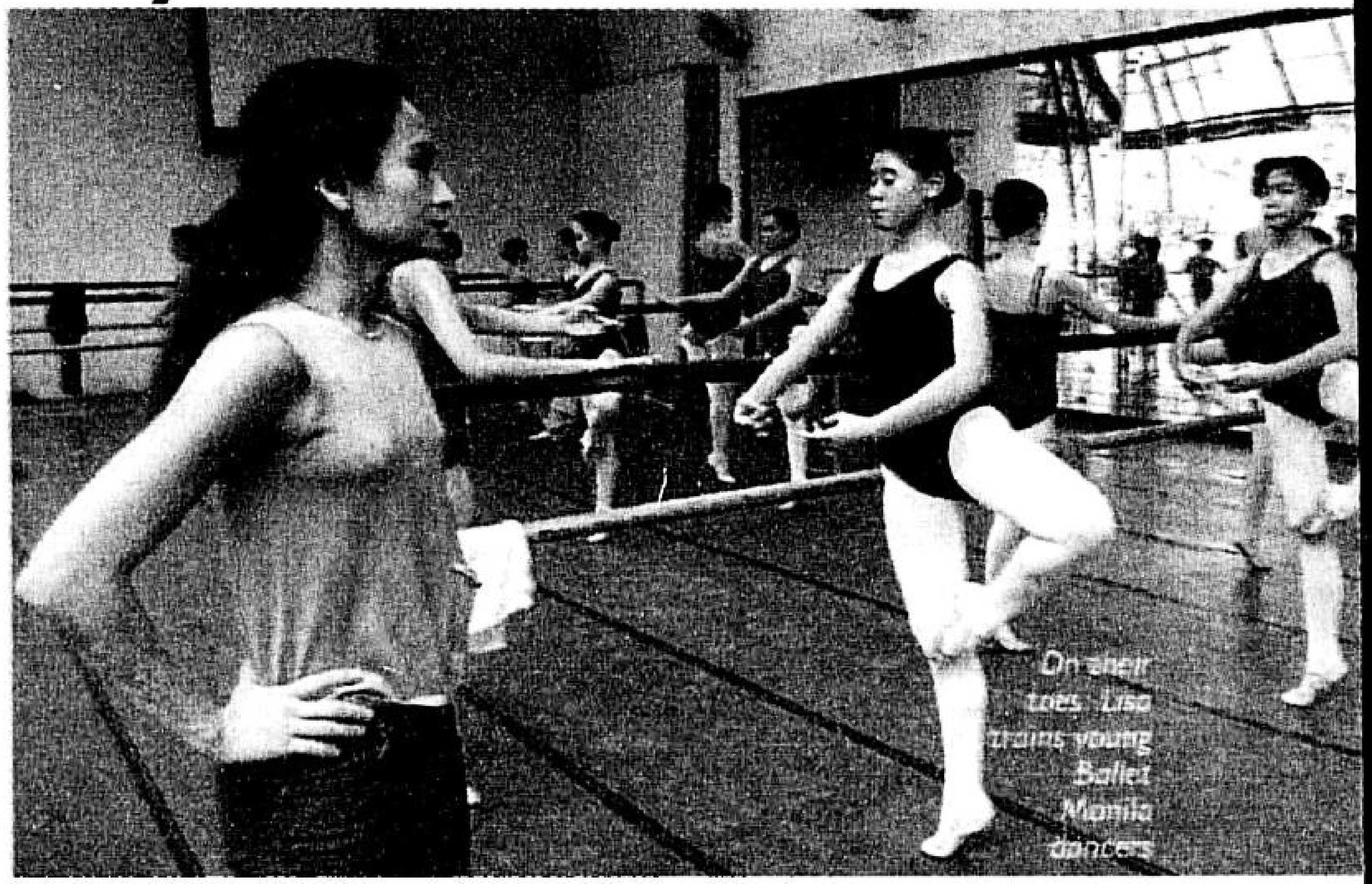
Theater Tales

by Cora Llamas

photographs by Ernie Sarmiento

For premiere ballerina Lisa Macuja Elizalde, combining Russian classical style with Filipino passion in Ballet Manila's 'Romeo and Juliet' is a long-held dream whose time has finally come

What Dreams May Come



On their toes: Lisa trains young Ballet Manila dancers

GREAT THINGS CAN COME FROM HIDDEN DREAMS.

A year and a half ago, premiere Filipina ballerina Lisa Macuja-Elizalde, still busy adjusting to the new demands of being wife and mother, found herself wishing for:

1) The chance to reprise her favorite role, Juliet of the famous Shakespearean romantic tragedy. Lisa had already performed thrice Romeo's ill-fated other half— as the principal guest artist of the Royal New Zealand Ballet; with the Atlanta Ballet's rendition of Thomas Pazik's choreography, and in the 20-minute Tschaikovsy overture during the first anniversary concert of her own company, Ballet Manila (BM).

2) The chance to perform with the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra (PPO) to be conducted by longtime Russian friend, Alexander Vikulov

3) Ballet Manila to perform in the grand Main Theater of the CCP

4) A lavish ballet production that will combine the best of Russian and Filipino talent

Finally, Lisa wished for a big-bang celebration for her next birthday.

By the end of this month, scant days before her natal day, the dancer's dreams are coming true. "Romeo and Juliet," a big-budget three-act musical, will be playing at the CCP Main Theater. Vikulov will be conducting the PPO to Sergey Profokiev's music. Ballet Manila, trained by Macuja herself in the Russian Vaganova style of dance, will execute the choreography of Serguei Vikulov, Alexander's father, and a prominent ballet artist of Mother Russia. Pinoy design masters Eric Cruz and Mio Infante will craft the scenery and the costumes. And, yes, Lisa Macuja-Elizalde will play Juliet.

Sweetening it further is the Order of Friendship conferred upon her by no less than Russian President Vladimir Putin. The Award recognizes Lisa's many collaborative ventures that strengthened the cultural ties between the Philippines and Russia, the latest of which is "Romeo and Juliet."

"It's the first time that the PPO will accompany BM under a Russian conductor," Lisa gushes about what she describes as a very personal project. "The choreography has never been seen anywhere in the world; the ballet was created specifically for this show. Ballet Manila students playing the extras will fill the stage. Actors from Bulwagang Gantimpala will do characters like the Duke of Verona and Friar Laurence. Nonoy Froilan, my former ballet partner in Ballet Philippines will do Lord Capulet."

From the start, Ballet Manila's artistic director made it clear to the creative team that the production must meet the highest standards of excellence. "There must be glitter, pomp, and pageantry. I don't want the set to look Third World or recycled; it must be plush and lavish. I want each scene change to be met with gasps from the audience. I want them to be in tears at the end of the crypt scene when the double suicide takes place."

The production is a reunion, in more ways than one, for Lisa and the Vikulov family. Also involved is Tatiana Udalenkova, Serguei's wife and Alexander's mother, who mentored Lisa in her first years in what is now known as the Russian Ballet Academy. "Sergeui was a star while I was still a new graduate of the Kirov Ballet. Tatiana basically molded me, and had to reteach me everything because my Philippine training, though adequate, was different. Philippine ballet did not require me to turn out 180 degrees, but the Russians did; theirs is more demanding and a lot more painful.

"The Russians have something that no other company abroad has: more than 250 years of tradition and history in the classical style. You don't get that development somewhere else."

Lisa imparted much of what she learned to Ballet Manila. "The company's strength is ingrained in the Russian training, the Vaganova style. That is my legacy." It wouldn't be farfetched to say that BM is a "Filipinized version of a Russian ballet company."

Serguei and Tatiana visited throughout the years, holding workshops for the BM dance troupe. It is a mentor-student relationship, with a familiarity and a care that one cannot expect from other artists who are just hired to do a job. "The kind of work the Vikulovs put in is intense," Lisa acknowledges. "It's not the work of a stranger, but personalized, for a company that they consider as their own."

Lisa's new interpretation of Juliet will also be more personal. "My character will be a lot more subtle and hesitant. Before I was all-attack, very passionate. Because," she breaks out into a grin, "now I know the subtleties of a marital relationship better than when I was a young, inexperienced ballerina of 24."

The thirtysomething ballerina enjoys a happy home life with husband, businessman Fred Elizalde and their two children, Missy, 3, and Mac, 1. While Mac's main concern right now is to perfect his first steps, Missy has a serious streak. The pretty girl sometimes astounds her own mom by "how she speaks like an adult. She knows what she wants, is very articulate, and is probably the only kid who can tell the story of Dracula in sequence!"

Missy has her own ballet costume, and has inherited her father's talents

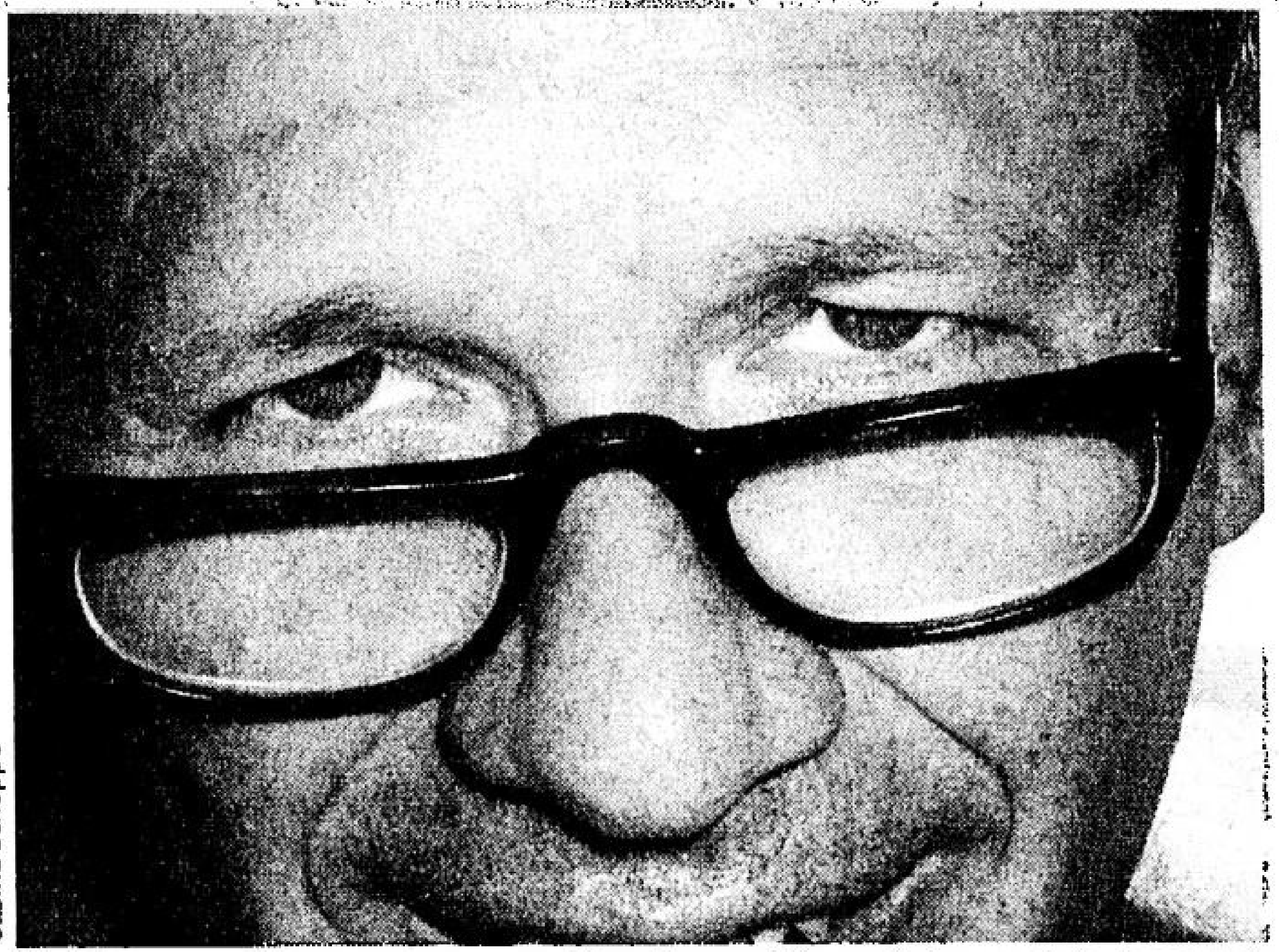
To page 5

People for the Planet
by Alan Silayan

A visiting marine biologist working with the World Wide Fund for Nature marvels at the extraordinary, unappreciated wealth that can be found in Philippine reefs

Coral Crazy

AT A DEPTH OF 25 FEET, MARINE BIOLOGIST DOUG FENNER GESTURES EXCITEDLY TO A MUSHROOM CORAL SITTING ON THE SEA BOTTOM. AT THE SURFACE HE EXCLAIMS WITH A WIDE GRIN, *"FUNGIDAE TAIWANENSIS!"* THIS IS FENNER'S THIRD DIVE IN ANILAO, AND HE IS ECSTATIC OVER THE PRESENCE OF MUSHROOM CORALS THAT HAVE SO FAR ONLY BEEN RECORDED IN THE COASTAL WATERS OF TAIWAN.



Sabine Schoppe

Doug Fenner: The reefs deserve to be preserved

Fenner, an American who works with the Australian Institute for Marine Sciences (AIMS), specializes in coral taxonomy. Fenner was commissioned by the Tubbataha Project of WWF-Philippines (World Wide Fund for Nature) to survey the reefs in that famous atoll in the middle of the Sulu Sea. In between his projects in Tubbataha and Dumaguete, Fenner stopped by Anilao to help out with the coral survey of the WWF project there. His experience in Asia, in Malaysia, the Philippines, Indonesia and Palau, in particular, makes him the ideal consultant for coral taxonomy. Of the 790 species of corals, Fenner can identify at least 450 on sight.

But Fenner is not your stereotypical bookish, dust-covered scientist. When Fenner arrives in Anilao, he has no scientific instruments, no high-tech gadgets with him. In fact, he dives with the bare essentials—mask, snorkel, fins, tank, an old regulator, and a buoyancy control device with a defective inflator. He doesn't even use a wetsuit. When he conducts his surveys, he only uses an underwater slate and a waterproof index of coral species.

Underwater, Fenner is in his element hovering effortlessly above the corals as he surveys the reef in a methodical and precise manner. Starting from the deeper parts of the coral reefs, he works his way up to the shallows in a random pattern that he alone understands. "I learned in Malaysia that to find new (coral) species, you have to take time in the shallows," he says to explain his unorthodox diving method. Careful not to overlook even the smallest specimen of coral, he often misses the spectacle of fishes around him.

When it comes to corals, Fenner can outtalk anyone. He has the patience to explain the intricacies of coral biology to anyone who cares to listen. But he's also willing to learn from the locals. Fenner was fascinated as our boatman explained local beliefs about corals and pointed out areas of thriving coral patches.

By the time Fenner left Anilao, he reported 29 species of corals that have never been documented in Philippine publications. The coral species *Eguchipsammia sp.*, in particular, is quite rare. In fact, this was Fenner's first encounter with a live specimen in its natural habitat. The uncommon species *Halomitra clavator* was also another favorite. And it is only in Anilao where you can find a dense population of a few hundred specimens. But more important than these discoveries is Fenner's conclusion, which he cites in a report to WWF-Philippines. "Anilao area reefs support a very high coral diversity, as high or even higher than the best reef sites yet studied within the 'Coral Triangle' area of highest reef diversity."

Coral Care

How to do your part in protecting our ocean wealth

1. Don't throw plastic into the sea. Plastic can smother the corals and kill the polyps.
2. Cutting down trees will cause soil erosion. The eroded soil will go to the sea, smothering the corals and blocking off much-needed sunlight.
3. Report dynamite fishing.
4. Report spearfishing by scuba divers.
5. Report commercial fishing vessels within 15 km of shore.
6. Support an enforcement program in your community.
7. When anchoring boats, use buoys. Anchors damage corals.

Fenner inspecting the condition iof Anilao's corals

Kaila Ledesma

In the Tubbataha reef, after 19 dives, Fenner counted a total of 240 coral species. In Anilao, Batangas, after 18 dives, Fenner was able to identify 290 species of corals. Is it possible that Anilao's coral reefs are more diverse than Tubbataha's, a World Heritage site? The waters of Tubbataha are known all over the world as one of the most productive marine ecosystems in the planet. Could the same be said of Anilao?

There are 411 coral species recorded in the Philippines. More than half are found in Anilao. The dive site named Cathedral, with 67 species is more diverse than the entire Caribbean Sea, with only 50 or so species for that entire area. In the world of corals, this may be the Mt. Everest of coral biodiversity.

The question is, what do we do with this knowledge? Other than simply being a collection of species names and numbers, Fenner's findings can be used as a tool for conservation.

WWF is approaching conservation in Anilao in two ways. At the ground level, the organization works with local stakeholders to strengthen marine law enforcement. By working closely with local communities, it is envisioned that a coastal resource management plan can be created. This plan establishes the guidelines for resource use by the communities. At the same time, WWF also works with the provincial government of Batangas to come up with a bay-wide management plan for the entire Balayan Bay. Fenner's data is essential to focus management priorities on areas rich in species forms.

"Anilao area reefs have exceptionally rich coral fauna, among the richest known in the entire world," says Fenner, "and thus deserve continuing efforts to preserve them."

For more information on the coral reefs of Anilao, call WWF at 433-3220 or email kkp@wwf-phil.org.ph.

Food for Thought

by Jose Ma. Lorenzo Tan

Why save our coral reefs? As WWF marks its 40th anniversary, we are reminded that the reasons for conservation are more basic than we think

THE ISSUE here is food.

One square kilometer of healthy coral reefs can produce 15 to 30 metric tons of fish every year. Experts from the UP Marine Science Institute have estimated, however, that up to 60 percent of our nation's coral reef system are unhealthy, and produce barely five to seven metric tons per year. If we were to look at the total national hectarage of coral reefs, and consider the relative health of our reefs, our current annual fish output from coral reefs is less than 400,000 metric tons.

According to the Association of Commercial Fishing Operators, the annual consumption of fish and seafood has already hit close to 1 million metric tons per year. This means that most of the seafood we consume now come mostly from areas outside coral reefs.

Gutsy Tuason

The rich reefs of Anilao

Global studies have shown that populations of commercial fish species have been decimated by overfishing. Local commercial fishermen are forced to go farther and farther out to sea each year. The efficiency of commercial fishing gear that led the industry to boom is now leading it to bust. They are doing to fish resources what America did to the buffalo. Deep-sea fisheries are going to become a thing of the past.

In Southern Negros, Balayan Bay, Tayabas Bay and a slew of areas where marine protected areas have been established, and commercial trawlers are forced to stay outside the 15-kilometer zone reserved by law for small municipal fishermen, the fish catch has improved in quality and increased by as much as six times within a short span of one year. In Anilao, local fish catch has increased from two kilos per family per day to as high as 12-15 kilos per family per day.

Most coral reefs fall within this 15-kilometer zone. To conserve coral reefs, therefore, is to create a savings account of food for the future. If even 25 percent of our total coral reef areas can be protected, conserved and given a chance to regain their health, our annual fish output from these reefs could increase from an estimated 400,000 metric tons, to a figure close to the total current national consumption per year. If we are able to conserve and protect up to 50 percent of our reefs, we will have enough fish for the future.

The author is the president of WWF-Philippines.

THEATER...*from page 3*

for the visual arts. The Elizalde residence in Pasay is filled with his paintings. Fred, an accomplished visual artist, has done several backdrops for BM productions. He drops by once in a while at BM rehearsals, taking photographs, sharing his ideas for the repertoire. "His so-called 'layman's comments' have a lot of merit, and we incorporate them," says Lisa. And let's not forget one very important detail: "Ninety percent of our budget in this production comes from Fred," his wife acknowledges. "That's a major contribution."

"Romeo and Juliet" is the first time that Lisa has performed on stage in four years. Considering that the stringent, exhausting schedule did take away some of her family time, will we see her dance again in a major role in the next few years? "It all depends on the kind of production. I do dance less; on the other hand, my soloists have matured enough that I trust them with the large roles."

Then there is that time every year when she foregoes workouts and rehearsals and everything she needs to do to stay in shape. "My family and I take off for six weeks, and I just become wife, mother, treasurer, and tour organizer."

And during that blessed time, when being with her loved ones rejuvenates her creative energies, who knows what other fantastic dreams may spring?

Ballet Manila's production of "Romeo and Juliet" will run at the CCP Main Theater for four performances starting Sept. 28, 8 p.m. For inquiries, please call 525-5967 and 512-5031 to 32.

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How BJ Got His Game Back

WHEN LA SALLE POINT GUARD BENEDICT DE JESUS MANALO JR. WALKS INTO A ROOM, ONE CAN'T HELP BUT TAKE NOTICE. WHO WOULDN'T RECOGNIZE THE 6'1" MVP OF THE 1999 JUNIOR UAAP CHAMPIONSHIP AND VERY CONTROVERSIAL DE LA SALLE GREEN ARCHER?

Yet the 20-year-old marketing management major sees his popularity as a privilege and a big responsibility. BJ admits, though, that the fame can sometimes get to his head. "But I know that it shouldn't because it's just a gift. It can be taken away anytime, so I treasure it and don't take this blessing for granted," he says. And so, he keeps grounded in knowing that he can only achieve great things through God's help and guidance. Yet this realization did not come without a price.

For two years BJ suffered a stress fracture in his left shin which kept him on the injured list without any assurance that he would play the same way again. This was undoubtedly the lowest point of his career and his life. In those two years BJ had to undergo physical therapy and had individual training, not being able to keep up with his teammates' strenuous training. He had no choice but to be content running in the sidelines and to just offer moral support to his teammates from the bench. Being unable to play in the game was a big adjustment for him.

Amazingly, in August of this year, BJ's X-ray showed no sign of any fracture whatsoever. His injury had completely healed. "My injury affected my life. But now, at least I know that my dream still has hope," he says. And with renewed hope in fulfilling his lifelong dream of playing the sport he loves most. BJ takes his road to full recovery one step at a time, improving as he goes along.

Training with the team six days a week, from four in the afternoon until eight in the evening, plus an additional hour of individual training, BJ needs a lot of stamina and drive to keep up with his rigorous schedule. He doesn't mind it one bit. He says, "You have less time for your friends but at least it pays off, if that's your goal and you're happy with your sport. I prefer playing basketball than going out at night." And with his strong belief in hard work to achieve a goal, his passion for the game allows him to rise above all challenges.

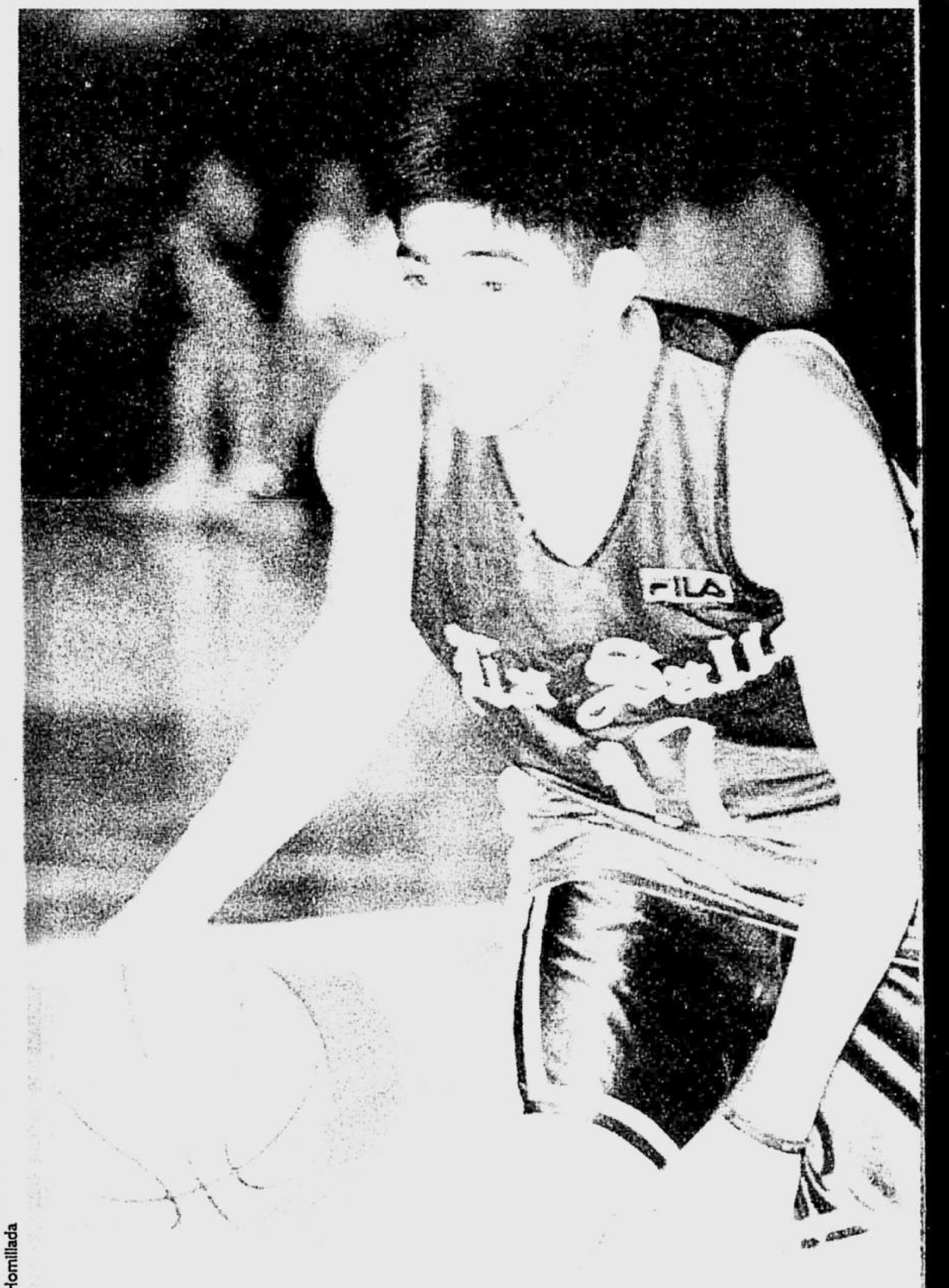
With the La Salle Green Archers playing well in the current UAAP season, chances of winning the championship for the fourth straight year are high. Although being in a young team composed of eight rookies was a disadvantage at the beginning of the season, everyone works hard to improve every game as a team. BJ and the rest of the Green Archer veterans see each game as an opportunity for the rookies to gain wisdom from the older players, and to also be reminded that as a team, they still have a long way to go.

Just as important as the players is the coach. "Franz Pumaren is Franz Pumaren. He's the best coach for La Salle," BJ boasts. In the three years that he has been their coach La Salle had consistently bagged the championship. According to BJ, coach Franz has a very unique coaching style and constantly motivates them to give their best in every game. "Coach Franz challenges me and sees my potential. He trusts me and so I want to play my best."

Nevertheless, being an athlete always has its drawbacks. To always be in the spotlight also means being constantly scrutinized by others. And BJ is no exception. He talks about how a lot of people perceive him as a slacker in his studies just because he sometimes gets to class looking tired and a bit harassed. Though this is primarily due to his long hours of training, BJ can't imagine life without basketball. And yet his studies are equally important to him.

When asked what he is proudest of, BJ talks about his being able to overcome criticisms against him when he chose La Salle over Ateneo, where he spent his grade school and high school years. He explains, "*Maraming nag-*criticize *sa* move *ko na yon, di lang ako. Parang yung pagkatao ko na rin, na-*judge *na ako* (A lot of people criticized my move, and judged me and my personality based on that)." Despite this, BJ is content with his decision. "There are no mistakes, only lessons learned," he says with conviction. And if there are regrets along the way, he takes comfort in learning from the experience.

Through all this, BJ has realized and believes that God has a greater plan for him. From the criticisms to his injury and recovery, BJ has gained a more positive outlook on life. "It doesn't matter if I'm the best basketball player or the richest person on earth. What matters is who I am."



Romy Hornillada

by Therese Asela Mangosing

Ateneo jitterbug guard LA Tenorio is making the most of his life on and off court

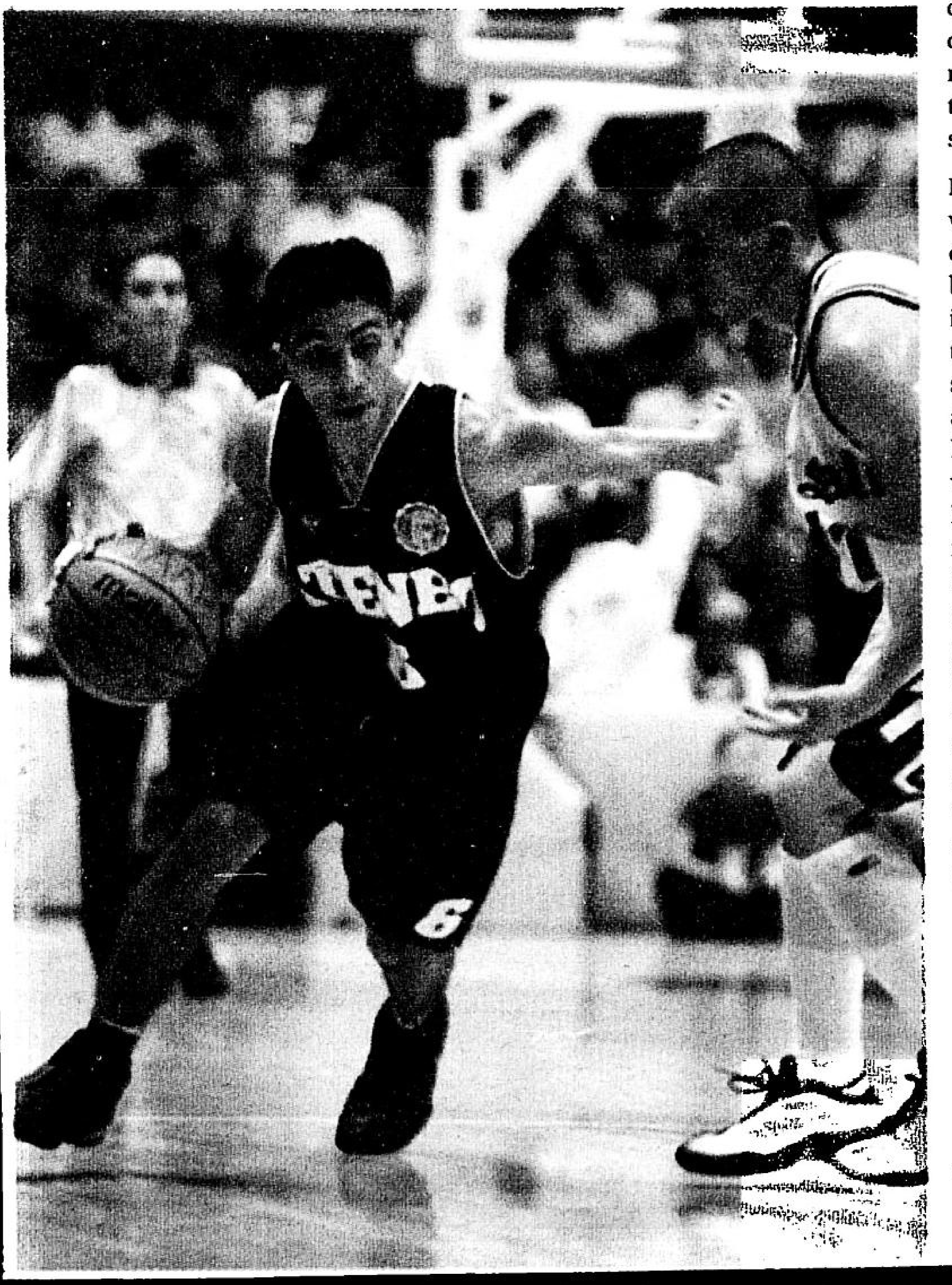
Second Chance Point

ANYONE WHO HAS SEEN ATENEO POINT GUARD LA TENORIO ON COURT WILL NEVER GUESS THAT HE WAS BORN WITH A HOLE IN HIS HEART. YES, HE WAS A BLUE BABY AND HE'S PROUD OF IT. "MY PARENTS DIDN'T THINK I'D EVER BE A BASKETBALL PLAYER BECAUSE THEY NEVER IMAGINED THAT I'D LIVE THIS LONG," HE SAYS.

Now, he is one reason why the Ateneo men's basketball team is doing so well this season in the Universities Athletics Association of the Philippines. His eye-popping ball-handling, acrobatic lay-ups and timely three-pointers have electrified audiences. However, LA, who wears jersey number six for the Blue Eagles, characteristically adds that he isn't the only reason for the Ateneo's sterling play. Indeed, he is a miracle, in more ways than can be seen on the basketball court.

The only freshman on this year's roster of Blue Eagles, Lewis Alfred Tenorio considers himself very fortunate to be where he is now. His basketball career began at a very young age at the basketball summer camp of Don Bosco in Makati, where he attended elementary school and played for their varsity team all through grade school. Then he spent his freshman year in high school with the Adamson juniors before transferring to San Beda. "When I went to San Beda, I was back to zero," he remembers. It was a fortuitous choice, giving him the chance to show off his court skills.

It didn't take him long to decide that he wanted to study at the Ateneo, a decision partly influenced by his mother Iluminada who wanted him to not only play but have the best education he can get. Hesitant that he will have a hard time balancing studies and basketball, he only had to look at former San Beda teammate and now Blue Eagle Magnum Membrere and cum laude graduate Paul Tan-Chi. "If Magnum and Paul can do it, it means I can too. I trust my mom and I don't think I'll regret it," he says.



Ernie Sarmiento

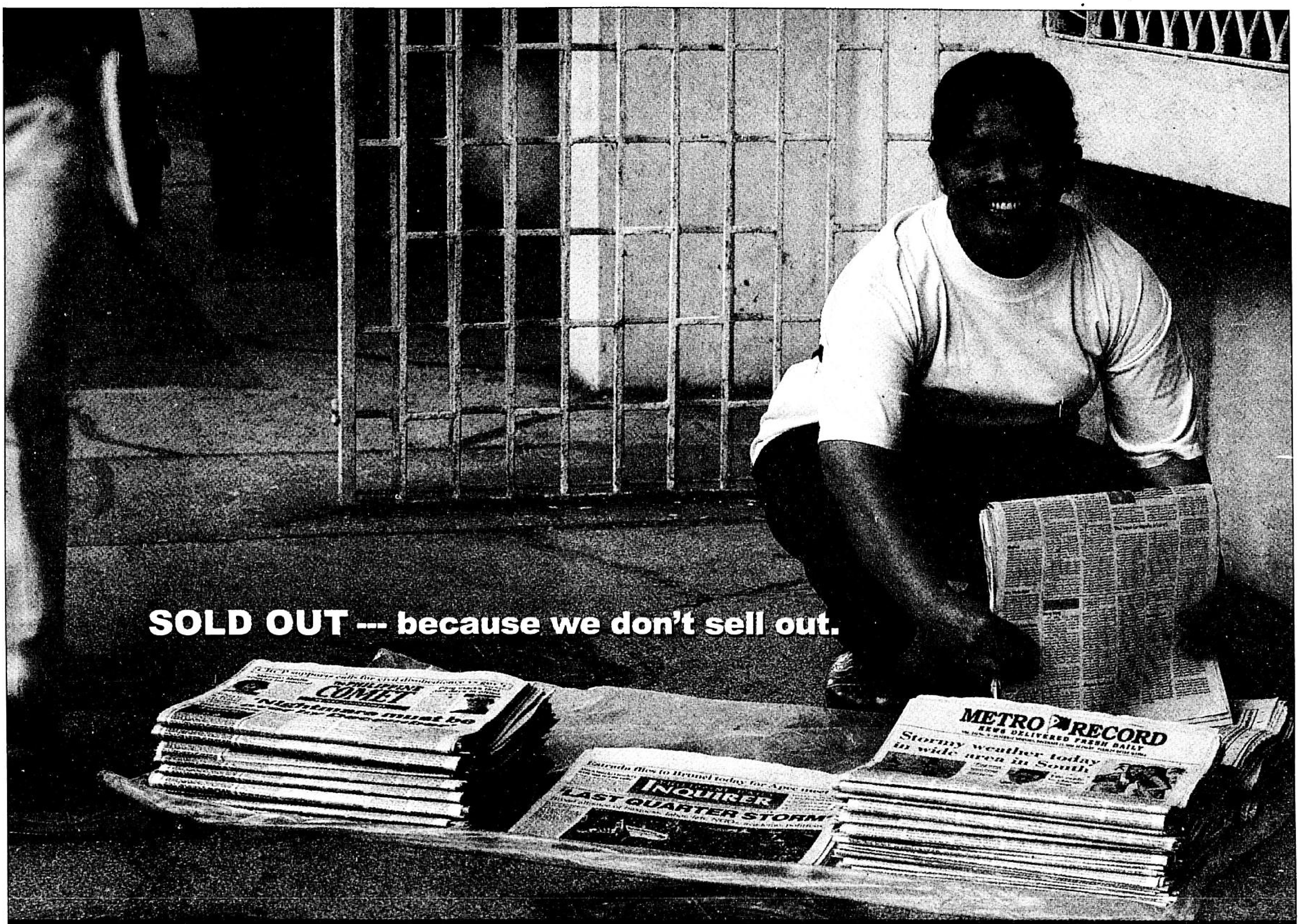
LA now finds himself working harder than ever both in basketball and in his studies. He maximizes his time by going straight to the dorm after class to finish his schoolwork and working on maybe his toughest opponent yet, Math. Being the true athlete that he is, he compares this animosity toward Math to the errors he commit each game. "You just need to work on your weakness immediately so that you can over come it."

Since they spend a lot of their time together, LA and his Ateneo teammates consider themselves more like close friends, brothers even. In their dorm just a couple of minutes away from the campus, LA has found his second home. It is there that he crams for an exam and bonds with his team. For the most part, they do what most people their age do. Since the only time that they do not have a curfew is during the weekend (9:30 p.m. during school days), they really make the most out of it. Playing counter-strike once in a while at a nearby gaming center has been a habit that he shares with the entire team (yes, all 16 of them cramped in a single room!).

LA also speaks very highly of the two influential coaches of his young basketball career. Coach Ato Badolato of the San Beda Cubs has been a great teacher to LA when he was still playing with his high school team. It was under Coach Ato's tutelage that LA learned the art of playing ball and leadership. His current mentor, Ateneo Blue Eagles head coach Joe Lipa, has equally been influential in his journey to basketball stardom. Seeing the great potential in this young point guard, Coach Joe has already been training LA to be the "coach inside the court" and to relay all the plays to his teammates. Still, he is very aware how the pressure in every game still lies on him and his teammates. The limelight that has been focusing on him on the past nine games that he has played in has both been very exciting and very hard on him. He remembers their first game against the Far Eastern University Tamaraws as the high point of the first round, as he contributed 19 points, 14 in the second half alone. Among all the games, he also shares that it is their game against La Salle that brought him the most excitement.

With all this talk of celebrity and basketball and school, LA seems to be handling it all very well. Amidst the pressure of his everyday life, it is astounding to see him juggling it all with the expertise that a well-seasoned veteran has. The reason is his family. His open adoration of his parents, two siblings, and cousins makes this on-court hero as real as everyone else. He is especially fond of his eight-year-old brother who at this age has already been showing signs of being an exceptional basketball player. While his younger brother thinks that he is the greatest player in the world, it is his mom who has always showed him immense support. Proud of his son's accomplishments, LA's mom has backed him up throughout every win and defeat he goes through. In their first game against the De La Salle Green Archers this season, he suffered a minor knee contusion. He found his mom and older sister crying because he hurt himself. His cousins also played a big role in his basketball career. Having constant mock games in the province since he was very young has really prepared him intensively for what was to become of him in the next few years. "My cousins are exceptional basketball players," LA smiles. "My only advantage is that I got to study in Manila and got a break." His every win is dedicated to them.

Indeed, LA Tenorio is more than the miracle worker that he is on his battlefield; he is more than the guy in the blue jersey. He is all heart when it comes to the sport he loves and is even more passionate in making his family and loved ones share in his little victories. LA has done well on his second chance shot and is out to prove that he deserves every blessing he gets.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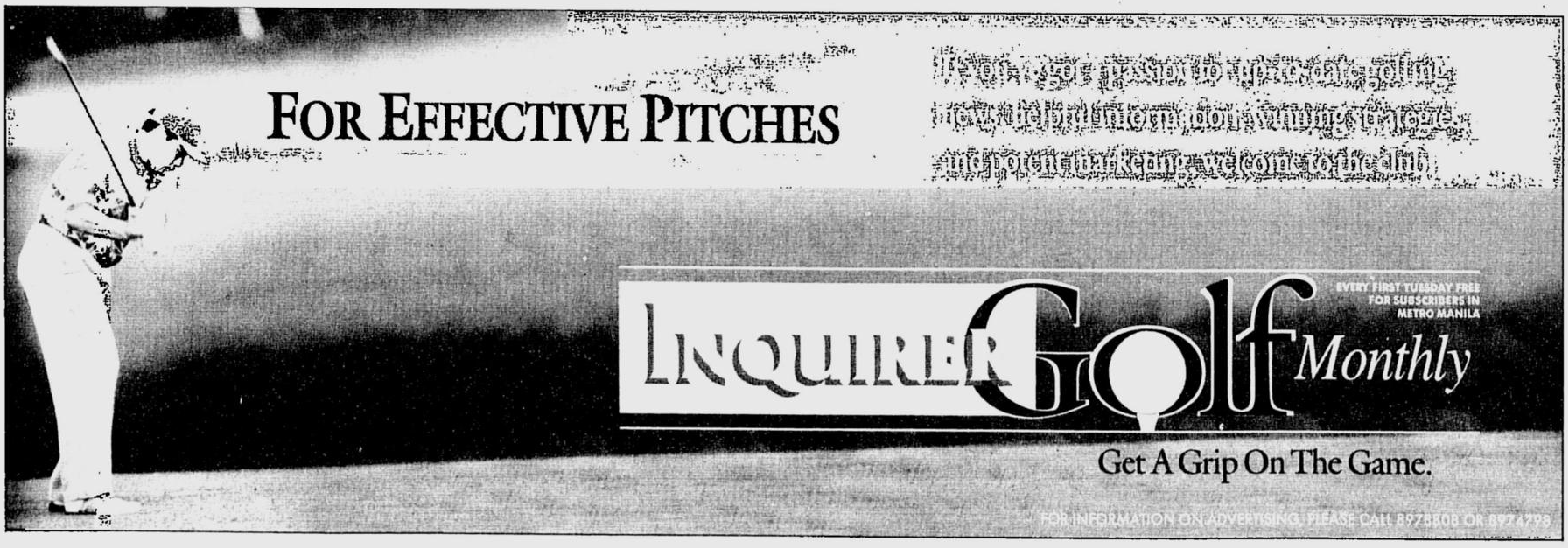
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Twists of Fate
by Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz

As the dance company she founded marks its 35th year, Bellestar dancer and founder Bella Dimayuga reflects on a life shaped by show business and purified by trials worthy of Job. Now she's out to save the entertainment industry from its own excesses

Feathers, Sequins and Faith

Roger Carpio

ASK BELLA DIMAYUGA HER AGE AND SHE'LL ASK ARCHLY, "BUT ISN'T THAT QUESTION UNLAWFUL? LET THE PEOPLE GUESS."

On other matters however, the former lead dancer of Bellestar, a dance revue that's half Vegas and half "GMA Supershow," is more forthcoming. Her home in quiet San Lorenzo Village in Makati reflects this as well. Everything is out there and properly framed by red and gold stage curtains: huge bouquets of dried flowers in humongous vases, floral wallpaper and gilt-edged photographs, galleons worth of Chinese porcelain on table tops and counters, and wall to wall *objets d' art* that the fine-boned Bella must have accumulated through 35 years of dancing all over the world.

But what appears to be a good life has not always been so.

They used to be rich, Bella recalls, her father being an Estrella of the political clan from Pangasinan. Their hacienda in Zambales, where her mom hails from, assured this eldest of nine siblings early schooling at Centro Escolar University and St. Theresa's College. "But farming was not my father's line and he soon lost everything," says Bella. So at nine, she learned to do odd jobs to help out: washing and ironing clothes, fishing, harvesting, pounding *palay* and cooking *bibingka* to sell. "It was all early practice for my being an entrepreneur later," Bella laughs. Still, she managed to finish Hotel and Restaurant Management at the Far Eastern University (FEU). "I was already dancing abroad at that time and staying in hotels so often I thought I knew everything about running the place. So why not HRM?" She ended up class valedictorian.

But school wasn't her strongest suit, she admits. "God made me a dancer," says Bella whose own name is perhaps a sign of fate. Without her mother's knowledge, the spunky girl took up ballet, a dance considered indecent at the time so that it eventually led to her transferring to another school. At FEU, Bella joined the official dance troupe "for the scholarship" and was soon dancing professionally. "I followed the other troupe members when I learned they were auditioning for a Vegas show," she recalls. After watching the dancers go through their paces through a window, she barged in and showed her wares. "They were impressed."

Putting on the glitz: Bella and trademark boa in her younger days (above) and at home today (top photo)

Bella landed a slot in Steve Parker and Shirley MacLaine's Philippine Festival show in Las Vegas, Nevada in 1960. It paid well and helped her family tremendously, but she was terribly lonely, she recalls. "I was only in high school and I cried every night." That didn't stop her from joining other groups and eventually forming her own: Bellestar stood for her maiden name—Bella Estrella—and was soon oomphing its way out of the country.

Marriage got in the way however and Bella could no longer perform abroad. Very much pregnant, she contented herself with selling *pancit* and sandwiches to other dancers at the Araneta Coliseum who would invariably ask her help to get contracts in different countries. She ended up forming the Manileña Dance Troupe and becoming a full-fledged talent promoter. Stylized cultural shows were her trademark, "because I wanted to innovate instead of doing the same dances over again." That meant, say, a Latin beat for "*Maglalatik*" and glitzy abbreviated costumes for the dancers. Sure it was a sexy image, "but this was Vegas, and we gave what the clients wanted. *Alangan namang mag*-bathing suit *na* long-sleeves! We showed as much as modesty allowed," bristles Bella. Being a mainstay at the "GMA Supershow" for 15 years also meant Broadway revues, "as *kuya* Germs (Moreno) requested." Soon enough, the flamboyant feathers and sequins became a Bellestar trademark.

Ironically, three decades of success stirred pangs of guilt in her, says Bella. All this time, she confides, she had issues. "I realized that all my life I was angry and resentful of my parents for handing me the burden of supporting the family so early." While her siblings considered her an ideal sister, she looked at them as mere workers "without even checking if their salaries were enough." The self-recrimination went unabated. "Because of my travels abroad, I neglected my children. Then I separated from my husband," confesses Bella. "I was president of so many promoters' groups and got awards but I was really doing nothing," she adds. "I taught my workers to pray the rosary but I didn't really care about their welfare. *Hindi ako totoo.*"

Feeling chastised and repentant, Bella made a covenant with God. "I asked him, give me pain, Lord, strip me and make me worthy."

When the reckoning came, it was a baptism of fire. In a span of one year, she felt God's cleansing whip. "China Air Lines crashed and four of my talents died. An uncle who was like a second father to me died and soon, another uncle got seriously ill. A phone operator and the security guard in our office also died in quick succession. Our house and then our office were burglarized, *tapos naholdap ako.* We had a series of car accidents that left our vehicles totally wrecked. A strong typhoon sent the perimeter wall of this house crashing down and several people were injured. Two of

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Cover Story

by Carlos H. Conde

In an ironic twist, Nur Misuari, a man whose name has become synonymous with the Moro struggle, has been "retired" as MNLF chairman and voted out of his own government. Sympathizers call it treachery; detractors call it comeuppance. Either way, Misuari vows, he isn't done fighting yet

The Politics of Betrayal

EVEN HIS EYES BETRAYED HIM. THEY LOOKED WEARY, AS THOUGH THEY HAD NOT HAD A WINK FOR DAYS. IF YOU LOOKED INTO THEM, YOU WOULD GET THE SENSE THAT THIS MAN HAD GONE THROUGH HELL. BETRAYED IS PROBABLY THE RIGHT WORD, AND THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT NUR MISUARI HAS BEEN FEELING NOWADAYS.

As far as Misuari, some Moros and Mindanao peace advocates are concerned, the ARMM was doomed to fail from the very start. Misuari, his supporters say, "was put in a straitjacket"

On this night inside his office in Zamboanga City (his first night outside Jolo, where he spent three weeks in self-imposed seclusion days before the August 14 plebiscite in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao or ARMM), Misuari sat in a gray leather sofa, wearing a light-blue polo shirt and cream slacks and a pair of slippers that couldn't hide his longish toenails. He looked pale and the huge picture frame of Mecca behind him – in which tens of thousands of Muslims from all over the world are praying to Allah – did little to brighten his aura.

"I cannot understand how Misuari can become a threat," he says by way of explaining the unusual troop movement in Jolo when he was there. "I told them (Malacañang officials) that if I wanted war, why did I ever agree to sign the peace agreement to end the war? Why? There is no logic to that! But it is they who I believe are so anxious to make war on us, thinking perhaps that the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) is already a spent force, that Misuari cannot command any more respect."

Carlos Conde

And so it is that the man who brought to the fore the legitimacy of the Moro struggle, the man who swore before his father's grave that he would take up arms for his people's liberation, is still fighting for the one thing that has eluded the Moros for decades — respect.

August 14, the day of the plebiscite that sought the expansion of the ARMM, is considered by Misuari as his own Day of Infamy. That plebiscite represented to Misuari what to him is his worst betrayal by the government.

The Arroyo administration had proceeded with the plebiscite despite his pleadings, despite his arguments that the plebiscite was a violation of the 1996 Final Peace Agreement that he signed with then president Fidel Ramos. Misuari had argued that the law that amended the original Organic Act creating the ARMM was not only faulty, it was also unilateral in that the MNLF which Misuari heads was not a party to its crafting. Misuari and the MNLF had campaigned for a boycott of the plebiscite. They said that approving the law would be an injustice to the Moros. By forcing the issue, Misuari says, the government effectively abrogated the 1996 peace agreement.

The result of the plebiscite was disastrous, to say the least. As Misuari had feared, the opposition to the ARMM's expansion was massive; only two areas out of the 14 cities and 15 provinces that are supposed to be eligible for inclusion in the ARMM voted yes. Any more impressive than that would have been unthinkable, simply because the ARMM, one of the poorest regions in the country, is hardly a showcase of promise, let alone prosperity.

The national government has been blaming Misuari for that, arguing that due to his incompetence, Misuari had squandered the opportunity to make autonomy work. To some degree, this is true. Even Misuari's sympathizers — like Fr. Eliseo Mercado Jr., a leading Mindanao peace advocate — concede that he is an inefficient manager. That was obvious when he was chosen governor of the ARMM: it took him more than two months to fill up the cabinet positions. It was also clear, thanks to his frequent absence in the ARMM, that he was preoccupied with things other than running the region. In fact, in his first year as ARMM governor and chairman of the Southern Philippines Council for Peace and Development (SPCPD), some of his colleagues in the MNLF Central Committee were already complaining about his frequent trips outside his region.

Misuari would counter that, on the contrary, it is the government which has not kept its end of the bargain. Records would tend to favor Misuari. For example, the budget for the ARMM's development projects and programs has dwindled in the past years; from a high of P1.5 billion in 1998 (out of the ARMM's total P4.9 billion budget for that year), the funds for projects dropped to P545 million the next year, then to a measly P50 million for 2002. (Between 80 percent to 85 percent of ARMM's budget has always been allotted — even before Misuari's time — to the salaries of the region's close to 20,000 employees.)

Besides, Misuari simply didn't stand a chance in making autonomy work. Aside from the fact that the autonomous region is largely dependent on the whims of the national government as far as budget is concerned, the SPCPD is seriously flawed. Under the executive order that created it, the SPCPD is simply mandated to monitor and suggest projects and programs (which are undertaken by national line agencies), not implement these. In a political experiment that has a direct impact on the lives of Moros and on how non-Moros regard them, that meant a whole world of difference. And because the public and the media have been conditioned to accept that growth and prosperity in Mindanao is the SPCPD's main task, blame for its failure would land on the lap of its chairman. The situation was so flawed some MNLF officials thought it was a setup.

To make matters worse, most investments and development projects in Mindanao were poured into relatively well-off areas such as the Davao provinces, General Santos City, Sarangani province and Zamboanga – areas which leaders tasked by Malacañang to promote Mindanao, such as former presidential assistant for Mindanao Paul Dominguez, reportedly have considerable vested interests in. Indeed, the ARMM areas hardly figured in the much-vaunted BIMP-Eaga, which Dominguez zealously pushed during Ramos' time.

As a result, Misuari had little to show, if at all, to convince people of the viability of autonomy because either he didn't have the money to do it or whatever projects implemented during his term were not credited to him, let alone to autonomy. Thus, as far as Misuari, some Moros and even Mindanao peace advocates are concerned, the ARMM was doomed to fail from the very start. Misuari, Fr. Mercado says, "was put in a straitjacket."

Either way, Misuari's critics are convinced that he just couldn't hack it as a politician. They are so convinced, in fact, that hardly any blame is being heaped on Malacañang, which has direct control and supervision over the SPCPD. As Fr. Mercado puts it, "the SPCPD is directly attached to the Office of the President. They cannot simply wash their hands."

Blaming Misuari became *de rigueur*. A top MNLF official told Asiaweek in 1999 that if Misuari "continues to stay in Manila, that's the end of him. He is isolating himself from the people. People need him. His presence is better than money. Leadership is better than money." Parouk Hussin, another leader of the so-called Council of 15 that went against Misuari, told the same magazine: "If you are a leader of a revolutionary organization and if you are betraying the trust of the general population, then you are plotting your own ouster."

That "ouster" came in April, when Hussin and the other members of the Council of 15, "retired" Misuari as chairman of the MNLF, making him instead "chairman emeritus." A few weeks later, Malacañang stripped Misuari of the SPCPD chairmanship. Beaten, Misuari sought refuge in his hometown.

Hussin says they ousted Misuari because "we want to move forward. With Misuari, we are not moving an inch. He's given enough time (but) what has he done? We have nothing personal against the man. The issue is, shall we allow peace to be held hostage by one man, by his incompetence, by his failure? Whatever his hand touches turns to failure!"

Under the gun: Nur reacting to reports of atrocities in Mindanao last year

But there are those who believe that Misuari's "dismal performance" as an administrator was not the main reason for his ouster. After all, says Fr. Mercado, Hussin and Muslim Sema, the man who replaced Misuari as chairman of the SPCPD, were Misuari's trusted officials to whom he delegated functions in running the ARMM and the SPCPD. "These are the same people who failed to do their jobs. What assurance do we get that they will perform any better now?" Fr. Mercado asks.

Fr. Mercado thinks that politics is behind Misuari's ouster, noting that those who ousted Misuari are MNLF officials who also occupy positions in government. Sema, for example, is mayor of Cotabato City while Hussin is the presidential adviser on Muslim Mindanao. "President Arroyo needs to consolidate her people in Mindanao for the year 2004 elections. She needs to put people she thinks can deliver the votes because Mindanao is largely Estrada country," Fr. Mercado says.

This theory also jibes with the role Norberto Gonzales, Arroyo's adviser on "special concerns" and also head of the Partido Demokratiko-Sosyalita ng Pilipinas, played in Misuari's ouster. It was Gonzales who supposedly organized the Council of 15 against Misuari. At present, the PDSP has put up chapters in practically every major province in Muslim Mindanao, with MNLF officials as key leaders. (Ironically, the Jesuit-led PDSP and the MNLF go way back, to the Marcos years, when the PDSP sought refuge with the MNLF in Sabah when the dictator declared martial law.)

Misuari has blamed Gonzales and the PDSP for plotting his ouster, saying that it was the classic divide-and-rule tactic. But Gonzales says Misuari is mistaken. What happened was an internal rift in the MNLF, he says. "I don't know why he takes it personally. He thinks he is the king of the MNLF," Gonzales says.

Gonzales concedes that Misuari still commands the respect of the Moro people but his performance, he says, "is really hurting them. We have to do it because the interests of our people are far more important than the interest of Misuari."

He admits, however, that it is not just Misuari's fault. "You cannot blame Nur for his failure. Government may have to be blamed for his inability to govern effectively. That is evident," Gonzales says.

It is conceivable, says a source familiar with the workings of the MNLF, that Misuari could have been talked into making concessions, if – and it's a big if — the purpose was to implement seriously the peace agreement and if Misuari was indeed a roadblock. But the man simply cannot be disabused of his belief that the failure of autonomy was not his fault, simply because it was *not* entirely his fault. Faced with this resolve, those who wanted him out of the picture used what Misuari calls treachery instead of diplomacy. And if there is one thing that hurts Misuari most, it is betrayal.

The Tausugs, who are the descendants of the Sulu sultanate, are considered a very proud people. Misuari is no different. "How you approach the man is essential," says Fr. Mercado. "People may be a little wary talking to him (because of his stature in the Moro community) but I find him open and reasonable," he says. "The government shouldn't have ousted him through the council. They could have come up with an acceptable agreement. The last thing you do is stab him in the back."

Ibno Husien, a 36-year-old Moro who has been with the MNLF since his college days and who now acts as caretaker of the ARMM's office in Cabatangan, Zamboanga City, agrees. "*Ma'as* is a very simple

Political animal: (Clockwise from bottom left) Fraternizing with Senate President Franklin Drilon, bonding with former President Fidel V. Ramos, and meeting with the ARMM troops

man. He does not have a wallet, does not carry around money. He hasn't even bought a replacement for a watch given to him as a gift by a Korean friend years ago. Why they are doing this is beyond me. This is no reason to betray him," Husien says in broken Tagalog. (*Ma'as* is a Tausug word that means "old man" and is usually used to address somebody who is revered.)

This betrayal is what hurts Misuari the most. "The government betrayed us. It has never unlearned its treacherous tendencies. We thought when the government betrayed us during the time of Marcos, that it was enough. Then it was repeated during the time of Aquino. Again and again and again. And I tell you this is probably the worst betrayal, under the regime of Arroyo," he says.

Despite that, Misuari says he continues to hope that things will turn out all right. In fact, all is not lost, according to him, because if there's one good thing that has happened since 1996, it is that the alleged abrogation by the government of the peace agreement "finally crystallized one thing: that indeed the government is not that interested in hearing us out. I never regretted anything. As a matter of fact, we need this crystallization so we won't be mesmerized again by their false promises."

Many people, particularly those in the Council of 15 and the PDSP, believe that Misuari is finished politically. The government, however, is sending a different signal. Through House Speaker Jose de Venecia, Malacañang has been trying to court back Misuari, even offering him an ambassadorial position of his choice. Misuari has so far refused to take the bait. Is this offer part of the strategy to mollify him? "I am not a child to be treated that way," Misuari replies.

It's definitely not the end of Misuari. "Well, they have been predicting the end of Misuari 101 times. But every time, they see Misuari is still very much alive and kicking. I am more alive than ever before."

He still commands considerable following in the MNLF, whose young members last April declared, albeit unofficially, a reversion to the MNLF's original position (a separate Islamic state) by calling for the secession of what it called the Bangsa Moro Republic with Misuari as president. Misuari himself declares that "we are back on square one."

The hills, however, are farthest from his mind right now. After emerging from his seclusion in Jolo, Misuari went to see his children in the Middle East, where they are studying. Misuari has nine children by two of his four wives (one of whom, Desdemona, died in 1987). The youngest is a 14-year-old girl, who, upon hearing a radio broadcast once that severely criticized her father, remarked: "Father, you better go to war." Misuari says he just smiled at her and said: "You don't understand what war is like."

Misuari says he takes pity on his children "for having been born into this kind of chaotic situation. But I think they can put up with it." As to the wives, he says, "They're used to this."

Misuari, 61, has been asked by the University of Berkeley to write a book on his and the MNLF's experiences, but he told them not yet. He would love to go back to his "first love," teaching, but that can wait for the right time, he says. "Of course, even when I'm outside the university, I continue teaching people about our experiences and our struggle," says the former University of the Philippines professor. (This love affair with teaching was cut short, however, by the Jabidah Massacre in 1968, which forced Misuari to take up arms against the government. "Up to now," he says, "the specter of that massacre is very much alive.")

He says he is not bothered by what history will say about him. "My only concern is that I be able to fulfill my pledges to my people. I want them to have a good life. I want to enhance the quality of life of my people. I want to see them free, as free as any people in the world. I want to stop their oppression, exploitation and repression. We want our children to grow healthy and in an atmosphere of freedom, without fear and intimidation. This is my commitment to our people. And I hope some people will not begrudge us for doing something to achieve that."

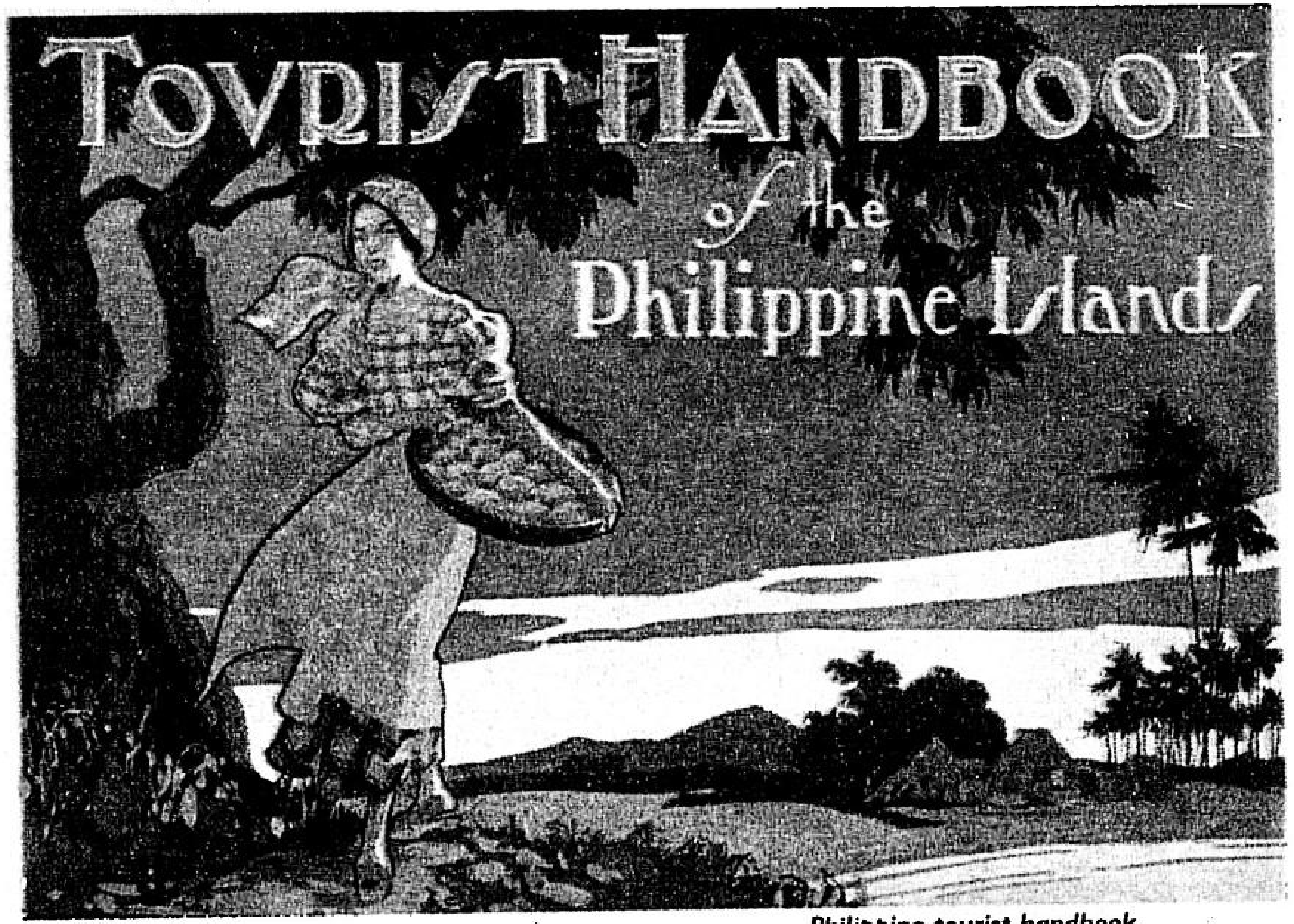
End Page

by Jonathan Best

Global Tourism and National Culture

Carefully managed tourism may be the only way to save the country's rice terraces, centuries-old churches, bahay na bato *and other ancestral homes and public buildings*

AS THE TOURIST SEASON WINDS DOWN IN EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA WITH THE END OF SCHOOL VACATIONS AND BALMY WEATHER, WELL-HEELED FILIPINOS WEND THEIR WAY HOME FROM JUNKETS ABROAD. SOME TRAVEL TO VISIT FRIENDS AND FAMILY, OTHERS GO ON RELIGIOUS PILGRIMAGES. BUT MOST LOOK FOR THE SAME EXPERIENCES THAT OTHER SOPHISTICATED WORLD TRAVELERS HAVE. THEY SEEK PERSONAL ENRICHMENT AND PLEASURE THROUGH EXPOSURE TO NEW AND DIFFERENT CULTURES.



Philippine tourist handbook illustrated by Fernando Amorsolo, 1924. J. Best collection.

Culture in the broadest sense includes everything from museums and historic sites, to national parks, the performing arts, religious shrines, markets, restaurants, and even theme parks and sports. Tourists the world over pack up and leave the comfort of their cozy homes and domestic routines in search of foreign adventures. They hope to broaden their knowledge of the world, heighten their self-esteem and sometimes simply enhance their social standing. Foreign travel is expensive and often times uncomfortable and tiring, but increasingly, millions of people are finding it worth every bit of the effort.

World travelers, both the very rich and the majority of us who save up all year and are on limited budgets, spend billions of dollars annually and substantially prop up the economies of many nations. Tourism has become a major global industry, one which the Philippines should be reaping hundreds of millions of dollars from. If the government and private sector would join forces, tourist revenues could double and triple over the coming years and have a very positive effect on both the Philippine natural environment and domestic culture. But much needs to be done.

The country has the physical and cultural resources to become a world class tourist destination, but it must first improve its infrastructure and the attitudes of people in the tourism industry and that of the general population. The self-deprecating "Only in the Philippines, ha, ha" mindset has to go. Many nations suffer from poverty, terrorism, kidnapping and corruption but their tourist industry is given full national support so they thrive and generate billions of dollars despite their problems.

If this country can afford to build billions of dollars worth of shopping malls and high-rise condominiums, why not invest a measly $50 or $100 million on Filipino ethnic art and history museums, restore the nation's remaining architectural landmarks and create world class wildlife preserves and parks? Filipinos are famous the world over for their exceptional musical, dancing and theatrical talents yet the Cultural Center is miserably underfunded and its shows poorly attended. This country has unique and sophisticated cultural assets. With proper promotions, these could attract flocks of domestic, regional and international tourists with millions of dollars to spend on sightseeing, hotels, resorts, restaurants, entertainment and shopping.

Nationalists and religious conservatives worry that tourism brings in negative influences, commercializes the national culture and creates a service society dependent on foreigners. These are valid concerns, which can be met with proper planning, responsible management and intelligent and enforceable regulations. Many other countries such as Mexico and Thailand and even highly developed European countries have used the tourist industry as a means to preserve their cultures and heritage. Carefully managed tourism may be the only way to save the Philippine rice terraces, centuries-old churches, *bahay na bato* and other ancestral homes and public buildings. Tourist dollars could help save the Philippine coral reefs, rain forests and natural wonders such as the Pagsanjan Falls and Palawan's and Boracay's beautiful beaches.

Tourists will come to the Philippines if the country makes a concerted effort to fund its cultural institutions, clean up the environment starting with air pollution and trash, and adopt a strong sense of national pride based on day to day realities and immediate needs. Why not replace ROTC with mandatory public service for both male and female students? Let them pick up trash, clean streets, plant trees, scrub walls, fill potholes, build housing for the poor and help the old folks, the sick and the indigent. The kids would learn some very important human values and the country could put on a new face to welcome the world.

The Philippines has a fascinating multicultural heritage with a great deal to offer in the area of the arts and indigenous culture. It has a natural environment which foreigners once waxed lyrical about, dubbing Manila the "Pearl of the Orient" and the "Venice of the East." Baguio was once the pine scented summer capital while Zamboanga was famous as "The City of Flowers" with colorful vintas sailing across the placid Sulu Sea. Investing substantial amounts of financial capital and elbow grease in the arts, culture and environment would give a much needed boost to national pride, especially among young people, and at the same time attract a windfall of foreign revenue from happy tourists and *balikbayans.*

Comments welcome endpage2000@hotmail.com

TWISTS...*from page 10*

The right moves: Belle of the ball (right) and modern evangelist (bottom)

my children got seriously hurt and my lawyer swindled me of P10 million." It was, says Bella, a series of trials worthy of Job. Fortunately, her boyfriend told her to hang on, "to trust in the Lord." But he also got "contaminated," she adds. "His father died and his house burned down. Then my boarding house burned down and several of my workers who jumped from the third floor were hospitalized. The following year, my boyfriend died in a motorcycle accident. A month after, my father died. When my mother came home from the US, *ayon nadulas, patay!* All the while, money was slipping through my fingers. *Yan ang hagupit ni* Lord, all in a year's time, from April to March."

Nothing remained, says Bella, except her faith. "I told the Lord. `You promised you won't abandon us.'" That and subsequent attendance in the Life in the Spirit Seminars worked wonders, she says. "I started disengaging myself from active business and let my children manage the office. Within six months, we recovered more than we had lost."

Like a religious convert, Bella used such epiphany to start a crusade. Her mission: to save the entertainment industry from the jaws of hell. Not to mention the sordid image it has acquired from constant association with the Japayukis, the Yakuzas and other forces of sin.

"There are a lot of temptations in the business," says Bella. Loneliness, she adds, is the biggest push. "Only by keeping myself constantly busy did I manage to resist various occasions for sin."

She has given her own dancers the same religious values and moral ethics, claims Bella, treating them like her daughter Twinkle, 26, a Hotlegs dancer who is married to Manoeuvers member Jason Zamora. "Their contract says they can't get pregnant and they undergo two pregnancy tests before they leave for work abroad. If they get pregnant, they can't leave; after delivery, *pwede na uli.* If suddenly, they miscarry before the trip, ahh, abortion *iyan.* They are penalized with a fine and they are not allowed to leave at all." Needless to say, adds Bella, such penalties also affect the company "because we also lose money when the girls drop out and we can't fulfill the contract." To forestall that, the dancers are given sex education along with their training and academics, which include Nippongo lessons and information on the country's traditions. "We work with Sr. Pilar Versoza's Pro-Life group so we only endorse natural family planning or rhythm."

As added protection when her dancers are abroad, says Bella, "they live apart from their employer. *At sama-samang natutulog.* If they want to go out, I encourage group dates or chaperoning. Some may want to go out alone, and that's why I put God in their hearts." More recently, she and Bro. Glenn dela Rosa, a Third Order Carmelite, put up 24-hour halfway homes and shelters in Japan "where troubled entertainers can go for help," says Bella. The group called FAPA (for Foreign Performing Artists Professional Promoters) has for its members different groups that send talents to Japan. "We give the talents moral values through retreats and prayer meetings," she adds. They now have 10 welfare centers in Japan, says Dela Rosa, "all of them NGOs that work with the labor attache of the Philippine Embassy."

Says Bella: "I want to show these workers that there's no such thing as *kapit sa patalim:* you always have a choice, you make your own destiny, and a strong spiritual foundation can help you make the right choice and resist outside pressures." Japayukis or Japan-bound entertainers can do a lot for the country, she adds. "There are some 80,000 Japayukis and they can give the country a good face. Why don't we make them agents of Philippine products so they're kept busy and out of mischief, they earn commissions and they improve the economy back home?"

Locally, says Bella, they are about 30 chapters of Yahweh's Love Charismatic Community that offer similar retreats and seminars for overseas workers. She herself sponsors such Life in the Spirit seminars at her Yahweh's Spring Retreat House in Pansol, Laguna; the Bellestar studio in Sampaloc, and the ballroom of her San Lorenzo home. "I shoulder the speakers' fees. Unless they're staying in and must therefore pay for board, lodging and transportation, everything else is free," she says. They used to have a free venue for a monthly spiritual retreat for OFWs at the POEA and OWWA offices, "but it became a casualty of President Arroyo's austerity measures. I really hope she would reconsider."

For skeptics who point out the contradictions between the pure demands of the spirit and the earthy vagaries of entertainment, Bella has a ready quote: "But the Lord came to the world for sinners. God is waiting for us to change."

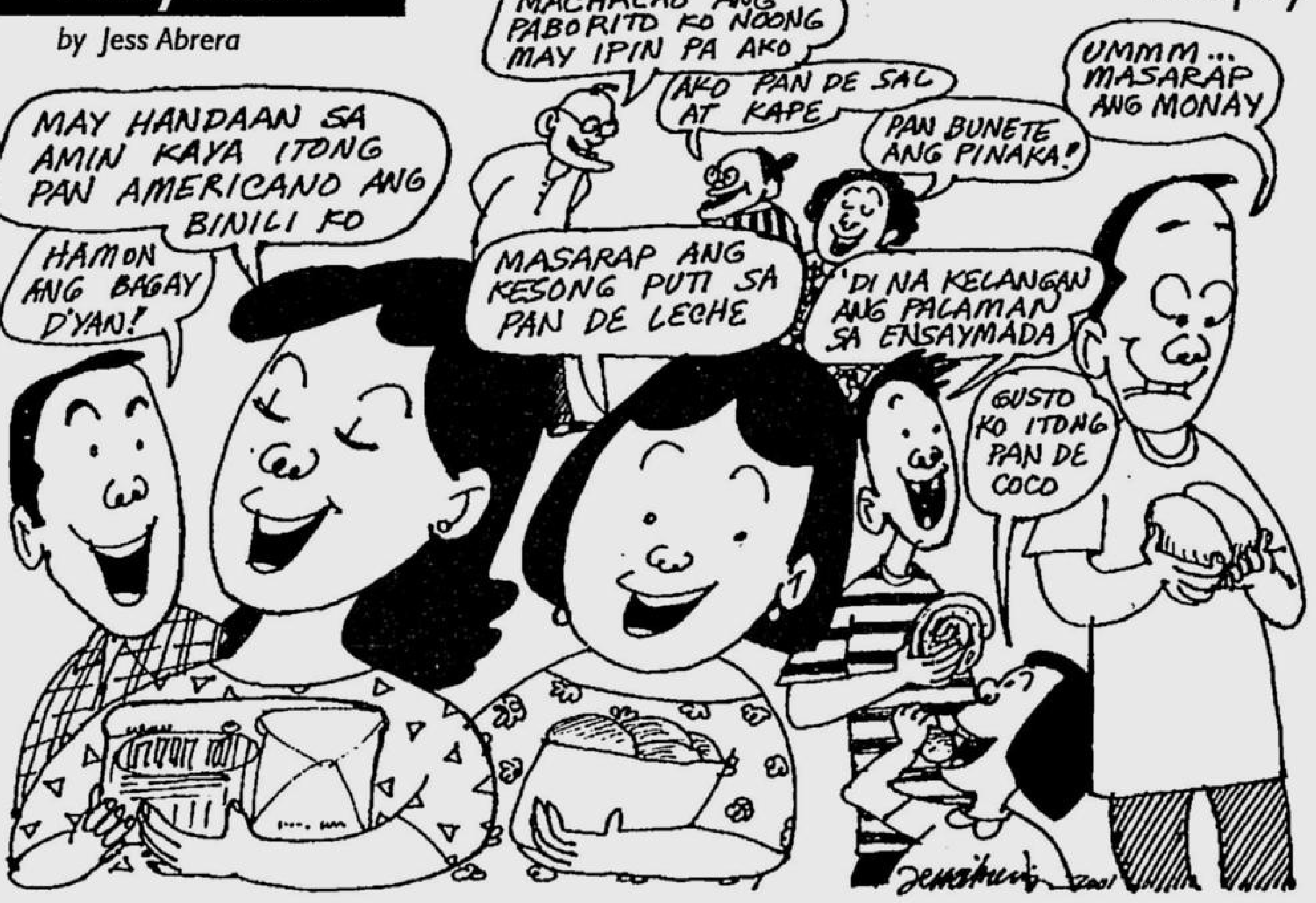
It may take a bit longer for entertainment folk to do that, she admits, "*dahil makamundo ang* industry" but it will come. "I'm not a hypocrite; I still do good business sending talents abroad so I'm not saying I'm better than anybody else. But I think the wounds I have encountered have prepared me to reach out to others like me. I also believe God allowed me to reach this stature when I no longer have to work so I'd have time to help others."

As Bellestar celebrates its 35 years in the business this Sept.28, Bella believes that her battle to save souls in the industry is worth the intrigues thrown her way. "*Tao lang ako* and I can only do so much," she muses. "But I will never stop fighting for what's good for our entertainers. Even if I feel like a voice in the wilderness, I'm sure God is listening. It's up to Him whether I succeed or not."

Pinoy NGA!

by Jess Abrera

Tinapay



MAY HANDAAN SA AMIN KAYA ITONG PAN AMERICANO ANG BINILI KO
HAMON ANG BAGAY D'YAN!
MACHACAD ANG PABORITO KO NOONG MAY IPIN PA AKO
AKO PAN DE SAL AT KAPE
MASARAP ANG KESONG PUTI SA PAN DE LECHE
PAN BUNETE ANG PINAKA!
UMMM... MASARAP ANG MONAY
'DI NA KELANGAN ANG PALAMAN SA ENSAYMADA
GUSTO KO ITONG PAN DE COCO
Jess Abrera 2001

This Week

Art

First Blooms, First Fruits, a solo exhibit of watercolors and pastels by Inna Vitasa until Sept. 26 at Gallery 139, Glorietta 4, Makati City.

Magnilay, mixed media works by Datu Arellano at the De La Salle University Art Gallery, 2401 Taft Ave., Manila until Sept. 29.

Lilia Lao presents her progressive experiments in clay slabworks and visual effects until Oct. 1 at the Lopez Museum Shop, Rockwell Center, Makati City.

A sumptuous spread from "Kaon 'Ta Bay sa Cebu," *the Cebuano food festival at the Holiday Inn*

The Ikalawang Palapag Group of nine award-winning young artists is currently holding its **nude paintings exhibit** until Sept. 30 at the Mindave Gallery, G/F, Padi's Mindave Restaurant Bar Restaurant in Mindanao Avenue, QC. For details, call 453-0080.

Wrapped, an exhibit of coral stone sculpture by Martin Genodepa at the Hiraya Gallery, 530 UN Avenue, Manila until Sept. 25.

Seasons of Art, an exhibit that chronicles Choice Expression Gallery's yearlong exhibitions of various themes, may be viewed until Sept. 27 at the 3/F, Long Gallery, PNB Financial Center, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City. For details, call 679-2362.

September Still Lifes, an exhibit of still life rendition by 12 of the country's exponents of the art at the Art Café of the Hotel Inter-Continental Manila until Sept. 30.

Refractions, Jason Oliveria's small works on paper dealing with intimate portraits of people and mundane objects, until Sept. 26 at the Drawing Room, Metrostar Bldg., 1007 Metropolitan Ave., Makati City.

Space Meeting Place, new artworks on sculpture and installation art by contemporary Filipino artists, ongoing until Sept. 30 at the Ayala Museum.

Catch Popo San Pascual's ***Opere d'Arte a Venezia*** in Figaro, Emerald Avenue. The exhibit runs until Sept. 30. For details, call 631-3061.

Joan Edades: 50 Years, an exhibit marking 50 years of Joan's career as a painter, until Sept. 29 at the Ma'l Room and Art Lane of the Ayala Museum.

Music

Side A will hold a special concert, **Night of Poetry Music with Side A,** at the Padi's Mindave Restaurant Bar in Mindanao Avenue, Quezon City on Sept. 29. Mindave Entertainment Corp. had also invited poets of the Unyon ng Mga Manunulat sa Pilipinas to hold a poetry reading as front act to the Side A concert. For inquiries, call 453-0080, 414-4930 to 34.

True Faith and Barbie's Cradle perform together in an evening of music and entertainment ón Sept. 27, 9 p.m. at the Soundstage Entertainment Hall & Restaurant. Tickets at P150 are available at the lobby. For inquiries, call at 941-5813.

Rannie Raymundo performs on Sept. 23 for the **Lite Rock at Hard Rock** monthly series. Aiza Seguerra joins Pido with Take One on Sept. 24 for a special show that promises all the chart-topping and homegrown hits. For details, call Hard Rock Café at 893-4661 to 63.

Relax and listen to your favorite **Broadway classics** at the Greenbelt Mall featuring Jenine Desiderio on Sept. 26 at 7 p.m. Admission is free.

The Manila Chamber Orchestra Foundation will present the works of gifted composer **Jeffrey Ching in a special concert** on Sept. 30, 7 p.m. at the Francisco Santiago Hall of EPCI Bank. Performing his works are some of the country's best artists like Renato Lucas (cellist), Nita Abrogar-Quinto (pianist), Lisa Cabahug (soprano), Nolyn Cabahug (tenor), Coke Bolipata (violinist) and Greg Zuniega (pianist). For details, call 818-1403 and 813-3849.

Custom Car & Sport Truck Show, an annual motoring event that provides motorcar enthusiasts with customized automobile modifications, Sept. 26-30 at the Megatrade Hall of SM Megamall B. The show is also an ideal venue for endless alternatives in high performance products, state-of-the-art technology and custom body styling kits.

For this week's bands and schedules call:

- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

Onstage

Cactus Flower, Abe Burrows' romantic comedy about the relationship of a bachelor dentist with his nutty mistress and his rather stoic receptionist presented by Repertory Philippines at the William J. Shaw Theatre until today and at the Carlos P. Romulo Theater, RCBC Plaza from Sept. 27 to Oct. 7. For details, call 633-4821 to 25.

Cinema

Le Goût des Autres, a film by Agnes Jaoui about the difficulty of loving and being in contemporary France (French version with English subtitles), Sept. 26, 8 p.m. at Alliance Ondeo Auditorium, 209 Nicanor Garcia St., Bel-Air II, Makati City. For details, call 895-7757.

Food

New World Renaissance Hotel showcases tempura cooking to add excitement to its buffet offerings of international fare at the Coffee Shop. Tempting tempura selections include shrimp, squid, fish varieties and fresh veggies. **Tempura Temptations** is available until the end of the month. For details, call 811-6888 ext. 3388.

Holiday Inn Manila showcases Cebu's authentic dishes with *Kaon 'Ta Bay sa Cebu* food festival until Sept. 29 at the Café Coquilla. The festival also highlights a trade fair of Cebu's most popular products and handicrafts on sale at the lobby. For inquiries, call 526-1212 ext. 2318.

Light Bistro offers **September Seafood Fiesta** featuring Crispy *Tilapia* with Mushroom *Adobado*, Seafood Kebab with Mango Salsa, Seafood Fried Rice with Spicy *Tuyo* and Pan-Seared Fillet of Fish with Oriental Sauce. Light Bistro is located at 223 Katipunan Ave., QC. For reservations, call 421-0640.

Seattle's Best Coffee introduces **Tangerana X-Tea,** an herbal infusion of green tea, gingko biloba and ginseng with tangerine juice and banana puree that gives a daily dose of Vitamin C. Seattle's Best X-Teas is now being served at its new branch at Ortigas Madison.

Atbp

A free symposium on anti-aging will be held on Sept. 29, at the Corregidor Function Room of the Century Park Hotel. Dr. Eleazar M. Kadile and Genia I. Kadile will deliver the lecture. Also, An Evening of Glamour (The Art of Feeling and Staying Young) lecture for skin care specialists, spa and salon operators, and beauty consultants will be held on Sept. 28, 6-8 p.m. at the Century Park Hotel. For details, call 371-7015 to 16.

Morocco at Firma, new items from Morocco such as silver and brass lamps, leather poufs, silver trays and coffee/tea pots with bone accents, tea glasses and ceramic bowls, leather and suede shoes and slippers, natural fragrant oils and amber frankincense, and decorative accent pieces are available at 616 J. Nakpil St., Malate, Manila. For inquiries, call 525-5001.

The Chosen Children Village Foundation and Abot Pangarap Foundation Inc. present **The Merry Merchants Bazaar** on Sept. 30, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Hotel Intercontinental Manila. Tickets sold at the entrance. For inquiries, call 832-1546 and 831-3627.

Mindave Entertainment Corp. invites singers to join the **Mindave Singing Competition** open to adults and children every Sunday night at Padi's Mindave Restaurant Bar, Mindanao Avenue, QC. Cash and gift certificates await winners. There will be weekly winners, monthly finalists and the grand finals in December. To register, call 453-0080 or 414-4930 to 34.

Join 5 and Up Club's **kiddie workshops on ventriloquism and book illustration** on Sept. 29, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Museo Pambata. To register, call Catherine at 435-9742 to 45. Limited slots only.

The Modelling Management & Training Center will hold a **Basic Modelling Workshop** on October. For Manila residents, text your name and contact number at 09174368987. For Laguna residents, call 09174219478. First-come, first-served basis.

Figaro will host a **masquerade party,** a fundraising event to benefit the projects of the Heritage Conservation Society. Proceeds from the Venetian masks sold in all Figaro outlets will also go to HCS. For ticket inquiries, call 812-2033 and 813-5839.

The Philosophy Department of San Carlos seminary will hold a **philosophical symposium** at San Carlos Seminary Auditorium, Guadalupe, Makati City on Sept. 26 at 9 to11:30 a.m. The topic of the lecture is "Man and the World From Chinese Thought" to be given by Dr. Manuel Dy. For details, call 895-8855.

September events on RX 93.1 include the movie premiere of "The Fast and the Furious" (Sept. 24, 7:30 p.m., Robinson's Movieworld Cinema 2), the fourth RX Cheering Competition (Sept. 27, 8 p.m., Chatterbox Galleria), and the RX Games—"Xtreme Xposed" (Sept. 29, Glorietta, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.).

X-manila

De La Salle University-Dasmariñas launches search for outstanding Caviteños with its annual *Gawad Bayani.* The search is open to Filipino (individual or group) whose roots can be traced to Cavite either by virtue of birth, affinity or migration. Nominees may come from various disciplines, sectors of society and from all walks of life. The nominee must have accomplished outstanding achievements or services for the growth and development of society. Nomination forms are available at all local parishes, local government units of the province and at the office of the vice president for Academics of DLSU-D. Deadline for nominations is Dec. 3. For details, call (046) 416-0338.

The Sunday Inquirer Magazine welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules and tickets. You can reach us by e-mail at sim@inquirer.com.ph or by fax at 897-4811.